Viscount Melville

THE

MODERN PLUTARCH,

OR,

Universal Biography:

INCLUDING

Authentic Memoirs

OF

DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC CHARACTERS,

OF ALL NATIONS, LIVING AND RECENTLY DECEASED,

WITH

ORIGINAL PORTRAITS.

285

VOL. II.

UNDER THE IMMEDIATE DIRECTION OF SEVERAL LITERARY GENTLEMEN.

"Hominem pagina nostra sapit."

MARTIAL.

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PREFACE.

IT *was elegantly observed by Marmontel, that* un bon livre est un bon ami; *and, judging from the unexpected patronage which the first volume of* THE MODERN PLUTARCH *has received, we are justified in the belief, that it has been regarded as* a good friend, *and consequently that it must be* a good book.

We wish not to monopolize praise; yet we cannot help flattering ourselves, that our exertions will be found materially to prevent, in future, that dearth of English biography, of which the great Dr. Johnson so much and so justly complained. It is owing to the neglect and silence of their contemporaries, that so little is known of the illustrious dead. Many circumstances, if not noticed at the time when they occur, are suffered to sink into oblivion; and, though apparently of but minor importance, they may be of the utmost consequence in the elucidation of other events, with which they may be intimately or remotely connected.

THE MODERN PLUTARCH *was commenced, with the professed intention of recording the lives and actions of popular characters, of all nations, living or recently deceased. The novelty, and general nature of the plan, founded a claim on the attention of the Public. How far that attention has been gratified,*

gratified, is not for us to say; but, from the rapid monthly increase of its sale, we have reason to suppose, that the execution of the work has somewhat more than kept pace with the expectation of its readers.

Not vain, however, of our success, our most anxious solicitude will be directed, to render each succeeding volume superior to the former; and, from the arrangements which have been made, it is scarcely possible that our wish should not be accomplished. New characters are daily bursting forth into notice, and many distinguished personages are constantly departing from this transitory scene of existence. To embalm the memory of the latter, and to elucidate the merit of the former, are a task, to the execution of which our labours will be most promptly and unremittingly applied.

In the course of the present volume, such an improvement will present itself, with respect to the plates, as, we conceive, will be generally approved; and, while every exertion will be employed, that can promote the literary merit of the work, it is not presuming too much to hope, that we may be thought to deserve the approbation which is implied in the celebrated and often-quoted verse of Horace:—

"Omne tulit punctum, qui miscuit utile dulce."

THE

MODERN

PLUTARCH.

THE RIGHT HONORABLE

THOMAS LORD ERSKINE.

THE eloquence of barbarous nations has been uniformly distinguished by a boldness of metaphor, by a warmth and energy of diction, imposing attention and reverence on the auditors. These indeed appear to be some of the constituents of oratory; for they have been more or less adhered to, by every state advancing towards civilization; and, even in the most polished assemblies, of the most polished nations, they are in some measure preserved. Cicero's celebrated apostrophe, to the woods and mountains of Rome, has been censured as bombastic; but, in adverting to the situation of his auditors, and reflecting on the animating style of delivery, in use among the Romans, we doubt not that the effect was great, impressive, and electrical. The censure, therefore, is somewhat hypercritical. In our stage representations of the present day, such apostrophes are not only tolerated, but applauded; the applause arising from the effect which they produce on the hearers. Matilda's commencing speech, in Home's admirable tragedy of Douglas, is of this description :——

"Ye woods and wilds, whose melancholy gloom
Accords with my soul's sadness, farewel, awhile!
I will not leave you long! for in your shades
I deem some spirit dwells, &c.

This apostrophe of Matilda's must be regarded as an effusion of genuine, unaffected eloquence; as a direct appeal to the best feelings of our nature, exciting the tenderest emotions of sympathy.

We have been led to these preliminary remarks, from the circumstance of some of Mr. Erskine's forensic speeches, having been censured for too great a boldness of prosopopeia, and rhetorical ornament. We are firmly of opinion, however, with one of his former biographers, that, "if a heart fraught with the finest sensibility, a spirit formed for virtuous indignation, a mind alive to the best distinctions of moral rectitude, and determined in its opposition to depravity; if a voice modulated to every expression of the human soul, a countenance interesting and impressive, and an attitude pleasing and commanding: if such be the constituents of eloquence, then is Erskine among the first of orators."

This distinguished character, now Lord Chancellor of England, is the third son of the Earl of Buchan, and youngest brother to the present earl. His education was completed in Scotland, under the eye of his father, one of the most accomplished men of his time. The earl had uniformly felt an extraordinary solicitude, as to the education of his children, and actually removed from his family seat in Scotland, for the purpose of residing at St. Andrew's, where he continued many years. During that period, he procured for them a private tutor, one of the most elegant scholars of that part of

the

the island, to assist their studies at the school and university. Mr. Erskine always pursued the study of the *Belles Lettres* with unremitting assiduity, and had the advantage of imbibing, from the most eminent persons of the day, that various and extended knowledge, which can never be derived from books, or solitary application.

The law is the third profession of which Lord Erskine has been a member. He went to sea with the late Sir John Lindsay, nephew to the great Earl of Mansfield; and, having served for some time as a midshipman, he was made acting lieutenant, by his captain, but never, we believe, obtained a lieutenant's commission. He is understood to have left the naval service, on account of the slight chance which there appeared to be of promotion; though perhaps there is no profession, in which merit alone, if at all favoured by circumstances, stands so fair a chance of advancement, even to the highest rank, as that of the navy. To attempt a calculation, as to the loss which his Majesty's service may have sustained, by Mr. Erskine's quitting it, would be absurd. Possessed of an exalted genius, as that gentleman unquestionably is, he might perhaps have rivalled the immortal hero of Trafalgar; or, unfavoured by fortune, he might have plodded onward, and have been at this moment no more than a post-captain.

In the year 1768, when still very young, he entered into the army, as an ensign in the Royals, or first regiment of foot; not so much, it is said, from inclination, as because his father, with a small and strictly entailed estate, had not the convenient means of assisting him, to one of the learned professions. With this regiment

Mr. Erskine went to Minorca, in which island he spent three years, and continued in the army about six.

During the time that he was employed in the military service of his country, he was much distinguished for his conversational talents. Mr. Boswell, who happened to meet him in a mixed company in London, mentions, in his memoirs of Dr. Johnson, the delight which the doctor and himself had experienced, from his ability in discoursing on some temporary topic, which then happened to be an interesting subject of dispute in the circles of the metropolis.

Whether a consciousness of such powers, the suggestions of his friends, or the embarrassments of a scanty income, first directed his attention to the study of the law, it would be difficult to ascertain; but the generally received opinion is, that the legal profession was forced upon him, by the importunities of his mother, the Countess of Buchan, after the death of his father; and that the hopes of succeeding in it were fortified and kept alive, against his own prepossesions, by her counsel and persuasion. If this be true, the result may be contemplated as a striking proof of her judgment, and skilful appreciation of talent.

In the year 1777, when about the age of twenty-six, Mr. Erskine commenced his course of legal study, by entering as a fellow-commoner of Trinity College, Cambridge; and by inscribing his name as a student on the books of Lincoln's Inn. One of his college declamations, on the revolution of 1688, is still extant; and, by the depth of thought, and uncommon powers of language which it displays, possesses a decided superiority over the pieces usually produced on such occasions. It obtained him the first prize; but, not attending

attending Cambridge as a student, and only declaiming in conformity to the rules of the college, he declined its acceptance.

In order to acquire a requisite knowledge of the mechanical parts of his future profession, Mr. Erskine entered as a pupil into the office of Mr. (afterwards Judge) Buller, then an eminent pleader at the bar. While he remained there, he pursued the business of the desk with unremitting activity and ardor; and, on Mr. Buller's promotion, he went into the office of Mr. Wood, where he continued a twelvemonth after he had been in considerable practice at the bar. Mr. Erskine never practised as a professed special pleader; but the notion of his being ignorant of that branch of legal science is wholly unfounded. No one understands the principles of special pleading better than Lord Erskine, nor was any one more dextrous in the seasonable application of them.

In what manner he cultivated the art of popular declamation is not precisely known; but it has been asserted, that he was an assiduous attendant at Coachmaker's Hall, where a debating society of some estimation was then holden. The great Mr. Burke is known to have initiated himself into the art of public speaking, at such seminaries of elocution: in his earlier years, Mr. Garrow also attended them; and, if a student cannot be expected to acquire the elegancies of diction at such places, he will at least become possessed of an unblushing confidence, one of the grand requisites for insuring success at the bar.

Having completed his probationary period, allotted to attendance in the inns of court, Mr. Erskine was called to the bar in Trinity-term, 1778. The follow-

ing was the occasion of his first speech in court.—Captain Baillie, who had been removed from the government in Greenwich Hospital, by Lord Sandwich, then first lord of the admiralty, and one of the governors of Greenwich Hospital, had been charged with having published a libel against that nobleman, and the attorney-general was instructed to file a criminal information against him. Mr. Erskine was retained for the defendant; and, in opposing the motion of the attorney-general, he took an opportunity of entering into the merits of the case, on behalf of his client. He expatiated upon the services which had been rendered by Captain Baillie, and on the firmness with which he had resisted the intrigue and artifice, to which he attributed the prosecution which had been set on foot against him. In the course of his speech, he attacked the noble earl in a tone of sarcastic and indignant invective. Lord Mansfield interrupted him more than once, but he did not abate of the severity of his animadversions. It was in Trinity-term, as we observed before, that Mr. Erskine was called to the bar, and the circumstance which we are now relating took place in the Michaelmas-term following. It was at this time no common spectacle, to observe a man, so little known to the court and to the bar, commenting, with asperity of remark, on the conduct of a powerful statesman, who held an elevated post in the administration, and distinguishing himself by a degree of confidence not usually felt in early efforts of public speaking, under circumstances, which rendered it more prudent to abstain from personal severity, and to conciliate the court which he was addressing. Mr. Erskine's strictures on Lord Sandwich were unquestionably severe: but,

but, if Colonel Luttrell's character of that nobleman be founded in justice, they were not unmerited. That gentleman observed of him, in the house of commons, that "there is in his conduct such a sanctimonious composure of guilt, that the 'rarity and perfection of the vice almost constitute it a virtue."

Mr. Erskine's acquaintance with Captain Baillie originated from his having accidentally met him at the table of a common friend, and his being retained for him, proceeded from no interference, recommendation, or connexion.

Almost immediately afterwards, our young advocate appeared at the bar of the house of commons, as counsel for Mr. Carnan, the bookseller, against a bill introduced by Lord North, then prime minister to re-vest in the Universities the monopoly in almanacs, which Mr. Carnan had succeeded in abolishing by legal judgments; and, on this occasion, he had the good fortune to place the noble lord in a considerable minority on a division.

As he retired after this successful exertion, nearly thirty briefs were offered to him, by the attornies who were present; and from this period may be dated the advancement of his reputation. He was surrounded by clients, and had his full share of routine business.

Admiral Keppel's trial was the next important cause in which Mr. Erskine was engaged. He was retained as counsel for the admiral, a circumstance which, we understand, proceeded from Messrs. Lee and Dunning, who were originally engaged, being unacquainted with sea phrases, without some knowledge of which the case was in a great measure unintelligible. Mr. Dunning, from his knowledge of Mr. Erskine's having been formerly

formerly in the naval service, recommended him as fully qualified for the requisite duty.

By the rules and usages of courts martial, the duty of a counsel is extremely limited: he may suggest to his client such questions as, it may occur to him, are requisite to be asked of the witnesses; but he is not permitted to put any question to them himself; nor is he at liberty to address the court: almost the only assistance which he can render, is in the arrangement of his client's defence, and in the communication of such remarks on the evidence, as are most likely to be present only to the minds of those who are habituated to the rules of testimony, in the courts of justice. This service was most effectually rendered by Mr. Erskine; and for his exertions on this memorable occasion, he was presented with the liberal remuneration of a thousand guineas.

He was now in possession of what is termed the best *second* business in the King's Bench; or that sort of business in which the lead is not given to the counsel who are not yet arrived at the dignity of a silk gown, and of a seat within the bar of the court.

An event shortly after occurred, which placed Mr. Erskine's talents in a still more striking point of view than any that they had hitherto appeared in. This was the sanguinary riots in 1780. At that period the whole kingdom was agitated, and the security of the nation itself was threatened in the destruction of the capital. It is known that the participation, if not the absolute origin, of these outrages, was attributed to the late Lord George Gordon. In the subsequent trial of his lordship, Mr. Erskine was retained as his counsel, in conjunction with Mr. Kenyon, the late learned Lord Chief

Justice

Justice of the court of King's Bench. The duty, which more immediately devolved on Mr. Erskine, was that of replying to the evidence; a duty which he sustained with infinite judgment and spirit. His speech on the trial is considered as one of the best efforts of his talents:—"I stand," said he, in his exordium, "much more in need of compassion, than the noble prisoner. He rests secure in conscious innocence, and in the assurance that his innocence will suffer no danger in your hands. But I appear before you a young and inexperienced advocate; little conversant with courts of criminal justice, and sinking under the dreadful consciousness of that inexperience." It will immediately occur to the classical reader, that this exordium is after the artificial manner of the ancients, who never began an oration without an appeal to the tribunal which they were addressing, upon the embarrassments and peril of the task which they had undertaken. The whole of the speech is rapid and impetuous, abounding with many of the most finished graces of rhetoric; and altogether in that style and character which are most impressive in judicial assemblies.

In the month of May, 1783, Mr. Erskine received the honor of a silk gown; his Majesty's letters of precedency being conferred upon him, as it is said, at the personal suggestion of the venerable Lord Mansfield. To this distinction, his portion of the business, and his acknowledged talents, gave him an undeniable pretension. Mr. Erskine is a remarkable instance of a rapid advancement to this honor, not having then been at the bar quite five years. His business was of course considerably augmented, and he now succeeded to that

place

place which had been so long occupied by Mr. Dunning.

It has been remarked, that in no part of his professional engagements, has Mr. Erskine deserved or acquired a higher reputation, than in his mode of conducting trials for *crim. con.* It has frequently fallen to his lot to be concerned in behalf of plaintiffs in these actions, a circumstance which has given him considerable advantage; for, besides the attention which is sure to be afforded to accusing eloquence, the sympathies of mankind are naturally in alliance with him who hurls his invective against the disturber of the genial bed, and the invader of conjugal happiness; and alarming as the frequency of these causes may be, yet the torrent of public licentiousness has received no slight impediment from the indignant feelings of the world, and the exemplary damages awarded by juries. To this honorable and useful end, the eloquence of the advocate is subservient. He calls forth the slumbering emotions, and the virtuous sensibilities of men, and forms them into a sort of league against the crime which he denounces. Mr. Erskine's speech, in the memorable cause of Sykes and Parslow, is still remembered, by those who heard it, as an uncommon effort of rhetorical ability.

Mr. Erskine's talents, however, have not been confined to the plaintiff's side, in *crim. con.* cases, but he has, in various instances, successfully exerted himself for defendants. Among these causes may be mentioned that of Baldwin *v.* Oliver, and the more recent one of Sir Henry Vane Tempest; in both of which one shilling damages only were given; the husbands having let loose their wives upon the world, and having been, in some respect, accessary to their prostitution. On

On these occasions, Mr. Erskine is considered as having done equal service to the cause of morality and virtue, by pointing out the infamy of unyoking the female passions from the restraints of conjugal protection, and domestic attachments. His speech, in the case of Howard *v.* Bingham will be long remembered at the bar: it contains a most affecting apology for the lady, who was married against her consent, while her affections had been bestowed upon another; it abounds with pathetic remarks on the harshness and cruelty of chaining down to a man, whom she hated, a young and beautiful woman, and, for purposes of family arrangement or ambition, dedicating her life to a reluctant discharge of duties, the obligations of which she could not perceive, and the conditions of which she could not sustain. In this speech there is no apology for vice, but an excuse for human frailty, which is pleaded with great warmth and great eloquence.

One of the most perfect models of the style of Mr. Erskine, is his speech on the trial of Stockdale the bookseller. When the charges against Mr. Hastings were published by the House of Commons, a Mr. Logie, a clergyman of the church of Scotland, and a friend of the governor-general, wrote a tract, in which those charges were investigated with some acrimony, and considerable warmth and vigour; the pamphlet being considered as libellous, by a resolution of the house, a criminal information was filed by the attorney-general against Mr. Stockdale, who was the publisher, for a libel.——In the course of his defence of Mr. Stockdale, Mr. Erskine urged many collateral topics in favor of Mr. Hastings, in a style of fervid and ornamented eloquence. Adverting to the charges preferred

ferred against Mr. Hastings, he expatiates on the obvious absurdity exhibited by a power, guilty of rapine and oppression, in presuming to sit in judgment upon those to whom its authority had been delegated, and by whom its own tyranny had been exercised. He dwells upon the ridiculous conduct of a nation, proceeding in its iniquitous career of plunder and rapacity, in saying to the subordinate instruments of its usurpation.—"Thus far shalt thou go and no farther;" that a great empire was to be preserved by the means which were used to acquire it; by acts of vigorous and severe authority. He then takes notice, of the violation of human happiness, for which the nation was responsible, in the exercise of her eastern dominions; concluding the topic in the following strain of energetic oratory.

"Gentlemen; you are touched by this way of considering the subject; and I can account for it. I have been talking of man and his nature, not as they are seen through the cold medium of books, but as I have myself seen them in climes reluctantly submitting to our authority. I have seen an indignant savage chief, surrounded by his subjects, and holding in his hand a bundle of sticks, the notes of his unlettered eloquence. Who is it, said the jealous ruler of a forest, encroached upon by the restless foot of English adventure, who is it that causes these mountains to lift up their lofty head? Who raises the winds of the winter, and calms them again in the summer?—The same Being who gave to you a country on your side of the water, and ours to us on this."

This has been censured, as a species of rhetorical ornament more figurative than our national eloquence,

 which

which does not tolerate the boldness of the prosopopeia, seems strictly to admit. Extremes verge upon extremes; and, while some will regard the passage as a flight of bombast, others will consider it as an instance of genuine and impressive sublimity. Whether the understandings of the jury were convinced, by Mr. Erskine's reasoning, or whether their feelings were brought over by his eloquence, we are not aware; but, in either case, the defendant obtained a verdict of acquittal.

The trial by jury, one of the proud essentials of the British constitution, is highly indebted for its support to the exertions of Mr. Erskine. On the original trial of the Dean of St. Asaph, in a case of libel, at Shrewsbury, where Mr. Erskine appeared as counsel for the Dean, a special verdict was delivered by the jury, finding the defendant guilty only of *the fact of publishing*. Mr. Justice Buller, who presided at the trial, desired them to reconsider it, as it could not be recorded in the terms in which they expressed it. Mr. Erskine, however, insisted that the verdict should be recorded as it was found. This was resisted by the judge, who, meeting with unusual opposition from the counsel, peremptorily told him to sit down, or he would compel him. "My Lord," returned the advocate, "I will not sit down—Your Lordship may do your duty, but I will do mine." The judge was silent; and it would, perhaps, have been more consistent with the dignity of the court, if the threat, which he did not feel himself prepared to execute, had not escaped him. Mr. Erskine concluded his argument in this case, with the following admirable sentiment:—"It was the first command and counsel of my youth, always to do what

my conscience told me to be my duty; and to leave the consequences to God. I shall carry with me the memory, and I trust the practice, of this parental lesson to the grave. I have hitherto followed it, and have no reason to complain, that my obedience to it has been even a temporal sacrifice. I have found, on the contrary, the road to prosperity and wealth; and I shall point it out as such to my children."

In Mr. Erskine's celebrated argument, in support of a rule for a new trial in the Dean of St. Asaph's case, he had the skill to concentrate all the doctrines, and to combine all the reasonings, which lay scattered over hundreds of volumes of legal learning; and most triumphantly succeeded in establishing his position, *that juries were judges of the law as well as of the fact.* On the principles laid down in this speech, Mr. Fox framed his immortal bill; which, though it received the most unanimous opposition, in both houses of the legislature, at length happily rescued the question from controversy, by the establishment of a criterion, to which the rights and duties of juries may at all times be referred.

The firmness and independance which Mr. Erskine displayed on every trying occasion, generally caused him to be retained in the defence of persons prosecuted for sedition or libel. His defence of the notorious Tom Paine, relative to his *Rights of Man*, drew upon him the displeasure of certain men in power, and occasioned his abrupt dismission from the office which he held, as Attorney-general to the Prince of Wales.

Mr. Erskine, in conjunction with Mr. (now Sir Vickery) Gibbs, undertook the defence of the state prisoners, in the year 1794. The accused persons, it is

said, looked up to Mr. Erskine as their instrument of safety; and he entered into their several defences, with an enthusiasm which rendered him insensible to the fatigues of a long and continued exertion, as the trials lasted several days; during which, nothing was omitted, which could tend to establish the innocence of the prisoners. The subsequent acquital of these men, will always be regarded with different feelings, according to the different political sentiments of the parties who may take the subject into consideration. Certain it is, that the event rendered Mr. Erskine for a time the idol of the populace.

On the prosecution of Paine's *Age of Reason*, Mr. Erskine was counsel for the crown; and it afforded an exalted pleasure to the religious part of the community, to find that in an age, when the blessings of revelation are openly undervalued and despised, a man of such splendid talents should display a lively sensibility to the obligations of religion, as the best auxiliary of morality and conscience, and that he should employ his eloquence and his reason, the best gift of God to man, in impressing on the general mind the consolations that are derived from the truths which it has imparted.

In the year 1783, Mr. Erskine was elected member of Parliament for Portsmouth; an honor for which he was probably indebted to the reputation that he had acquired at the court-martial which sat there on the trial of Admiral Keppel. Mr. Erskine, we believe, was regularly returned in every succeeding election, and held his seat until his late promotion, when his eldest son had the honor of being elected as his successor——Since his promotion, he has also resigned

the command of the law association of volunteers, which he had holden since the establishment of that corps in 1803.

It was expected by many, that, on the death of the late Lord Kenyon, Mr. Erskine would succeed him as Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench; but the appointment was conferred on Sir J. Law, now Lord Ellenborough, and Mr. Erskine continued at the bar until the late change in administration, when his Majesty was pleased to raise him to the dignity of Lord Chancellor. On the 7th of February, 1806, he was consequently exalted to the rank of a Baron of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland by the name, style, and title of Baron Erskine, of Restormel Castle, in the county of Cornwall. On the following day, at a meeting of the barristers of the Court of King's Bench, the following resolution was passed:——

"Resolved unanimously, That the following address be presented to the Right Hon. Thomas Lord Erskine, now Lord High Chancellor; and that Edward Dayrell and Daniel Parker Coke, Esqrs. being the senior barristers of this court, do present the same.

"That we cannot deny ourselves the satisfaction of presenting our sincere congratulations to the Right Hon. Thomas Lord Erskine on his appointment to the office of Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, and of expressing the deep impression made upon us by the uniform kindness and attention which we have at all times experienced from him during his long and extensive practice amongst us; and we further beg leave to assure his lordship, that in retiring from us, he is accom-

accompanied by our best wishes for his health and happiness."

To this address, which was immediately presented to him, his Lordship returned the following answer:—

"*Gentlemen,*

"I cannot express, what I felt upon receiving your address, and what I must ever feel upon the recollection of it.

"I came originally into the profession under great disadvantages.——bred in a military life, a total stranger to the whole Bar, and not entitled to expect any favorable reception from similar habits or previous friendships; my sudden advancement into great business before I could rank in study or in learning with others who were my seniors also, was calculated to have produced in common minds, nothing but prejudice and disgust. How, then, can I look without gratitude upon the unparalleled liberality and kindness which, for seven and twenty years, I uniformly experienced amongst you, and which I feel a pride, as well as a duty in acknowledging, alone enabled me to surmount many painful difficulties, and converted what would otherwise have been a condition of oppressive labor into an uninterrupted enjoyment of ease and satisfaction.

"I am happy that your partiality has given me the occasion of putting upon record this just tribute to the character and honor of the English bar.

"My only merit has been that I was not insensible to so much goodness; the perpetual and irresistible impulses of a mind deeply affected by innumerable obligations, could not but produce that behavior which you have so kindly and so publicly rewarded.

"I shall for ever remain, Gentlemen,

"Your affectionate and faithful

"humble servant,

"ERSKINE."

"*Lincoln's-Inn Fields, Feb.* 9, 1806."

Lord Erskine, in all probability looks back on his progress through life with much self-complacency. To his talents and his industry is he alone indebted for the great accession of wealth, and the exalted dignity which he has attained. He married at a very early period of life; and, for several years, had to struggle against a narrowness of circumstances, to which, of late, he has been a total stranger. Mrs. Erskine accompanied him to Minorca, followed his fortunes with the most cheerful constancy, and, while he was engaged in the pursuits of a most laborious profession, never suffered any pleasure or amusement to interrupt her in the assiduous duties of domestic life. Indeed, the part which she sustained, before the cloud which overhung their first entrance into life was dissipated, reflected the highest credit on her feelings. We regret to state, that this excellent lady did not live to witness the recent advancement of her beloved husband, as she departed this life of toil and trouble a short time previously to the demise of Mr. Pitt. She has left, however,

ever, four sons and four daughters, all of them, we believe, of the most promising talents.

Had his leisure permitted, there is reason to suppose, that Lord Erskine would have made a distinguished figure in the republic of letters. During the time that he was at Cambridge, when preparing for the law, he produced an Ode, in imitation of Gray's Bard, which has been much noticed as a sportive and fanciful effusion. It originated in an occasion truly humorous. The author had been disappointed by his barber, who neglected his usual attendance on him, and prevented him from dining in the College-hall. In the moment of disappointment, hunger, and impatience, he is supposed to have poured forth a malediction against the whole race of barbers, with a denunciation, prophetic of a future taste for cropping, and unpowdered hair. As Lord Erskine is a native of Scotland, it may perhaps be inferred, that he inherited the gift of *second sight*.

Some years ago, during the late contest with France, Mr. Erskine published a tract on the causes and consequences of the war, which went through a variety of editions. It was opposed, however, by that truly respectable writer, Mr. John Gifford; and, by candid critics, it was generally admitted that the latter had the better side of the argument.

Those who have had the felicity of hearing Mr. Erskine plead, must have been astonished at the originality, ingenuity, and force of his arguments: they must have been fascinated by the richness and brilliancy of his diction; and, where he was not contending in opposition to the doctrines of common sense, could scarcely fail of being convinced by his reasoning.

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Whether it proceeded from the particular direction which his genius had taken, or whether it proceeded from habit alone, which in the end is nearly the same thing, we cannot venture to say; but it must be allowed that, neither in force or solidity of argument, nor in the rhetorical ornament of delivery, have his parliamentary speeches ever been entitled to the same meed of applause as his forensic ones.

Lord Erskine's political principles have at times been unhandsomely canvassed. From his having been concerned in so many libel and sedition causes, it has been ungenerously inferred, that his sentiments were inimical to those of government. To those who reflect on the duties of an advocate toward his client, nothing can be more absurd than such an inference. Almost as well might the actor, who, by a peculiar cast of features, tone of voice, or mode of delivery, is condemned to the personation of villainy, be charged with the commission of the crimes which he pourtrays. An advocate is bound to act by the instructions of his brief. He is a servant of the public, and is bound by the ties of professional honor, to afford his assistance to those who engage him in their behalf. He presumes their statements to be correct, and acts accordingly. Contemplating the subject in this point of view, we cannot but consider the dismission of Mr. Erskine from the office of attorney-general to the Prince of Wales, on account of his defence of Paine, as an act of cruelty and injustice, to which we are fully persuaded that his Royal Highness was by no means accessary.

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As far as our means of observation have extended, Lord Erskine has uniformly evinced a laudable zeal for the interests of the constitution; and, in his new station, we doubt not that justice will be impartially awarded to all her claimants. Indeed, the decisions which he has already made may be regarded as so many proofs of his full competence to sustain, with credit and honor, the high station to which it has pleased his sovereign to call him.

LORD COLLINGWOOD.

" ——— Shall thy deeds, thy virtues rest alone
On sculptur'd forms, aud mark th' unconscious stone?
No: worth so tried in British hearts shall raise
A nobler monument of deathless praise."

ANON.

ENTITLED to the warmest eulogies of the patriot, the Right Honourable Cuthbert Lord Collingwood demands our consideration. Possessed of all the steady bravery and perseverance of the ancient school of naval tactics, this amiable veteran has evinced himself capable of appreciating and adopting every modern improvement in his profession. It is to such men that Britain is indebted for her proud pre-eminence; and, while she continues to reward them with such princely honours as have been recently bestowed, she will never be at a loss for heroes to maintain the superiority of her flag.

Though but recently ennobled, according to the aristocratic acceptation of the word, this truly *noble man* is descended from a long line of honourable ancestors, settled in the county of Northumberland. In a late respectable publication, *The Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border*, is a poetical narrative of *the skirmish of the Reidshire*,

Reidshire, which took place on the 7th of June, 1575, and which terminated in a complete victory on the part of the Scots. Among the prisoners whom they took was Cuthbert Collingwood, a progenitor of the present admiral, who is thus described :---

> " But if ye wald a souldier search,
> Among them a' were ta'en that night,
> Whas nané sae wordie to put in verse,
> As Collingwood, that courteous knight!"

His lordship is more nearly descended from the late Commodore Collingwood, one of the steadiest and bravest officers of the old school. The gentleman here alluded to distinguished himself in the encounter with the Count d'Estaing's squadron, in July, 1779; and in the action with the Count de Guichen, which took place on the 17th of April, 1780. He did not live to reach England after this event, but died at sea on the 2nd of June following.

Mr. Collingwood, the second of the heroes of Trafalgar, devoted himself, at a very early period of his life, to the naval service of his country; and, having passed the subordinate gradation of midshipman, he obtained a lieutenant's commission on the 17th of June, 1775. Like hundreds of other officers, as well in the naval as in the military service, Lord Collingwood's employments have been rather of an active than of a splendid nature; as it was not until the late glorious battle, which deprived our country of its brightest naval star, that his talents were fully called forth into action. They were known, however, to some of the first officers in the service, and his merit was estimated with justice.

At

At the commencement of the American war, Mr. Collingwood was ordered on the Jamaica station, where he became in some measure associated in service with the late Lord Nelson; a circumstance which laid the foundation of a lasting and never-violated friendship between two persons who were truly worthy of each other. In the summer of 1779, when Nelson was promoted to the rank of post-captain, Mr. Collingwood succeeded him as commander of the Badger, sloop of war; an appointment, however, which was not confirmed by the admiralty board till the commencement of the ensuing year.

Captain Collingwood remained on the Jamaica station but a very short time; as, on the 22d of March 1780, he was made post in the Pomona frigate, from which he shortly after removed into the Pelican, of twenty-four guns. During the time he held the command of the latter ship, he had the good fortune to fall in with a large French privateer, called Le Cerf, mounting sixteen guns, and manned with a chosen crew of one hundred and twenty men. This vessel had been fitted out from Aux Cayes; and, from various circumstances her capture was particularly gratifying and important. Although she had been out of port but two days, Le Cerf had taken the Blandford, a very richly laden ship belonging to Glasgow, after a spirited action of three hours. Le Cerf was considered as one of the fastest sailing vessels in those seas; and, consequently, she would have been likely to commit a proportional number of depredations, had not her career been thus cut short. The commander and crew of Le Cerf, irritated at the spirited defence which the Blandford had made, though of inferior force, had

with

with that base and barbarous spirit which too frequently distinguished the tigers of France, even in her most polished days, behaved with the greatest inhumanity in boarding the prize. Instead of displaying the characteristics of a brave foe, who never fails to treat his vanquished enemy with kindness and respect, the savage Gauls had cut and mangled the crew, and particularly the captain, in a manner that would have put the barbarians of Algiers to the blush. Captain Collingwood had therefore that exalted pleasure which can be experienced only by the generous mind, of affording succour and consolation to the distressed.

Shortly after the capture of Le Cerf, Captain Collingwood was deprived of his ship by one of those dreadful convulsions of nature which occasionally take place in the West Indies. The Pelican was totally wrecked on the Morant Keys; but the disaster was rendered less aggravating from the circumstance of the whole of the crew, four persons excepted, being providentially saved.

The loss of the Pelican occasioned Captain Collingwood to return to England; and at the close of the year 1782, he was appointed to the Sampson of 64 guns, which had just then returned from the expedition that had been sent to the relief of Gibraltar. The Sampson was ordered for foreign service; but the termination of hostilities rendered her sailing unnecessary, and Captain Collingwood's command ceased. In 1784, however, he was captain of one of the ships which had been kept in commission on the peace establishment in the West Indies. This ship, we believe, was the Mediator, of 44 guns.

Captain Collingwood, by being appointed to a command

mand in the West Indies, had an opportunity of renewing his personal intercourse with his friend Nelson. Nothing can stamp the character of Collingwood with more *eclat*, or prove the exalted estimation in which he was holden by Lord Nelson, than the letters of the latter, which have been published since his death, to his old friend and preceptor, the late lieutenant-governor Locker of Greenwich Hospital. It would be an act of injustice to Captain Collingwood, to withhold the following scraps, which, with many others, are scattered about in the letters alluded to.—"Collingwood," says Lord Nelson, "is at Grenada, which is a great loss to me, for there is nobody I can make a confidant of."—"Coll desires me to say, he will write you soon such a letter, that you will think it an history of the West Indies. What an amiable good man he is! all the rest are geese."—"Collingwood recommends ———, he says you ought to marry her; what a charming good man! he is a valuable member of society."—"This station has not been over pleasant; had it not been for Collingwood, it would have been the most disagreeable I ever saw."—"Therefore I asked Collingwood to go with me, for his sentiments and mine are exactly similar." Such sentiments, flowing spontaneous and unsolicited from the heart, speak more forcibly than whole volumes of the most laboured panegyric.

At what period our officer returned from the West-Indies, we have not been able to ascertain; but we believe that, for a short time, he was without employment. In the year 1790, he was captain of the Mermaid frigate, of thirty-six guns; but from the pacific state of Europe at that time, he remained without any oppor-

opportunity of displaying those talents which have since been so conspicuously exerted for his own and for his country's glory.

A scene was now approaching, in which military merit of every description was likely to be called into action. The attentive reader will not require to be told, that we allude to the commencement of hostilities against the murderers of their king, and the revilers of their God, the sanguinary anarchists of France. At this period Captain Collingwood was appointed to the command of the Prince, a second rate, the ship on board which Rear-Admiral Bowyer hoisted his flag, under the orders of the late Earl Howe; who, it will be recollected, had been invested with the chief command of the Channel fleet. He was also entrusted to watch the motions of a very formidable armament, which, with much labour and expence, the enemy had equipped and got ready for sea. In the memorable battle which ensued, on the glorious first of June, Captain Collingwood bore his full share. An extraordinary circumstance, however, a circumstance unprecedented in the annals of the British navy, is connected with this battle. "Those officers," says the commander-in-chief, in his official dispatches, "who have such particular claim to my attention are the Admirals Graves, and Sir Alexander Hood; the Rear-Admirals Bowyer, Gardner, and Pasley; Captains Lord Hugh Seymour, Pakenham, Berkeley, Gambier, J. Harvey, Payne, Parker, Henry Harvey, Pringle, Duckworth, and Elphinstone. Special notice is also due of the Captains Nicholls of the Sovereign, and Hope of the Bellerophon, who became charged with, and well conducted those ships, when the flag-

 officers

officers, under whom they respectively served therein were no longer able to remain at their posts; and the Lieutenants Monckton of the Marlborough, and Donelly of the Montagu, under similar situations."

Whether the strong censure, so pointedly levelled against the conduct of Captain Collingwood, by the above apparently invidious selection, were intentional or not we cannot presume to assert; but, that the censure was wholly unfounded, we feel no hesitation in averring. Captain Schomberg, in his *Naval Chronology*, very justly, yet very moderately, observes, "that the meritorious conduct of these officers was, no doubt, highly deserving of so distinguished a mark of royal favour; * how far such selections may be consistent with the well-being of so important a service as that of the British navy, in which every officer is supposed, on like occasions, to act to the best of his abilities, needs no comment; if in the presence of an enemy, or in action, a commander appears deficient either in courage or conduct, it is more candid and decided in a commander-in-chief to have such conduct investigated before a public tribunal, rather than leave a doubt on the minds of his country by such oblique insinuations, that some have fallen short of their duty."

Captain Collingwood missed the medal; but it does not appear that his professional character sustained any injury from the neglect of Lord Howe, whether it were unintentional or designed. Shortly after the action above noticed, he was appointed to the Excel-

* The gold medal presented by his Majesty to those officers who were specified in Lord Howe's dispatches.

lent,

lent, of 74 guns: and, in 1775, he had the charge of convoying, to a certain latitude, a fleet of outward-bound East-Indiamen.

In the year 1797, a brighter day opened upon the professional services of Lord Collingwood. He was then sent to the Mediterranean, for the purpose of re-inforcing Sir John Jervis, now Earl St. Vincent, the commander-in-chief on that station. In the engagement which took place between the British and Spanish fleets, on the 14th of February, he may be considered as having procured ample amends for the inactive situation he had been compelled to hold for more than two years. Between Collingwood and Lord Nelson there seems to have been almost a magnetic sympathy. The latter, describing a particular period of the action, says:—"At this time the Salvador del Mundo, and San Isidro dropped astern, and were fired into in a masterly style by the Excellent, Captain Collingwood, who compelled the San Isidro to hoist English colours; and I thought the large ship Salvador del Mundo had also struck; but Captain Collingwood, disdaining the parade of taking possession of a vanquished enemy, most gallantly pushed up with every sail set, to save his old friend and messmate, who was, to appearance, in a critical state. The Blenheim being a-head, the Culloden crippled and a-stern, the Excellent ranged up within two feet of the San Nicholas, giving a most tremendous fire. The San Nicholas luffing up, the San Josef fell on board her, and the Excellent passing on for the Santissima Trinidada, the Captain resumed her station a-breast of them, and close alongside."

Soon after the action of the 14th of February, Cap-

tain Collingwood was ordered to Lisbon, with the Excellent; whence, after remaining there some time, he returned to England. On his arrival, the Excellent being in want of considerable repairs, was put out of commission, and her commander received no farther appointment as a private captain. On the 14th of February, 1799, the anniversary of the day on which, two years before, he had so completely established his reputation, he was advanced to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the White Squadron. His flag, as a rear-admiral, was first hoisted on board the Triumph, of 74 guns, in the Channel fleet, at that time commanded by Lord Bridport. The rear-admiral continued in the Channel fleet until the ratification of the late treaty of peace seemed to render the maintenance of an extensive naval force, on the part of Great Britain, no longer necessary. In the month of June, 1800, however, he shifted his flag into the Barfleur, a second rate.

Our commander was next advanced, on the 1st of January, 1801, to the rank of rear-admiral of the red; and, after the recommencement of hostilities against France, he was, on the 23d of April, 1804, promoted to be vice-admiral of the blue. On the return of Sir John Orde and his squadron to England, after having retired from before Cadiz on the approach of Villeneuve's fleet, the vice-admiral was sent to resume the blockade. The combined fleets, on their return to Europe, and flying before the superior genius of Nelson, instead of venturing to Cadiz, as it was apprehended would be the case, made for Ferrol, which port they entered after a slight action with Sir Robert Calder's squadron. Having repaired their damages,

mages, and acquired a re-inforcement, which, notwithstanding the loss of two ships taken from them in the action itself, and of one or two others which they left behind, they became augmented to twenty-seven sail of the line; and with this very formidable armament they put to sea on the 13th of August, 1805. As the squadron under Vice-Admiral Collingwood's orders amounted to no more than eight ships of the line, it must be obvious how extremely dangerous his situation was, when, on the 21st of August, the whole combined force under the orders of Villeneuve, made its appearance off the port of Cadiz. Compelled to consult his own safety by a temporary retirement, his coolness and professional skill enabled him to preserve every ship under his command from being even molested by his truly formidable opponents; and, the instant that the fleets of the enemy had entered their destined port, he posted himself so judiciously with his little squadron, that, if he could not be said to blockade the port, he certainly watched it so completely, that no measure could have been taken by the enemy without his knowledge. It was not long, however, that our officer remained in this comparatively inefficient state; for, by a junction with the force under Sir Robert Calder, by several subsequent reinforcements from Admiral Cornwallis, &c. his squadron comprised upwards of twenty sail; yet still it equalled not, by one third in number, the combined fleet of the enemy. He now resumed his blockading station, and rode in proud defiance of their superiority in sight of the port, in which, without any exaggeration, they might be said to have taken refuge.

Such was the service of the rear-admiral till the arrival

arrival of Lord Nelson: the glorious events subsequently to that period have been detailed in our account of his Lordship's life. * On the ever-memorable 21st of October, 1805, at the head of the division under his orders, he began the attack upon the enemy, off Cape Trafalgar, and broke through the French line. Lord Nelson, on witnessing the "gallant bearing" of his colleague, turning round with the highest exultation and joy, exclaimed, "Look at that noble fellow; observe the style in which he carries his ship into action!" From so adequate a judge of naval merit as the late Lord Nelson, such a remark was eulogium sufficient.

The result of the action is too well known and too justl yappreciated to require any comment from us; but we must be permitted to observe, that the official dispatches of the chief surviving commander are entitled to much attention and praise. The first was so fraught with genuine piety, as to justify the remark, that, like another Elisha, the noble-minded Collingwood had caught the mantle of his Elijah, the immortal Nelson: it evinced at once the goodness of the writer's heart, and the clearness of his head. Scarcely had the tremendous conflict been brought to a conclusion, than the elements, as though in anger for the departed chieftain's death, appeared determined to display their utmost fury against his surviving enemies by whom it had been occasioned. The rear-admiral, anxious that his countrymen should not be led away with the hope that a number of prizes might be brought into the ports of Britain, when it was not

* *Vide* Vol. I.

certain

certain that any of them could be preserved, rather chose to exhibit a hopeless picture of their state. There was much prudence in this conduct, as it prevented all exaggerated expectations. In a letter written two days after the action, he expressed the strongest apprehensions that not one of the prizes of which he had taken possession, would be retained as substantial and lasting trophies of this splendid victory. However, by his unremitting attention, aided by those of the brave men whom he commanded, four of them were at length preserved.

Britain is ever willing and anxious to express her gratitude to the heroes who fight her battles, and exalt her fame: no sooner had the account of the victory of Trafalgar arrived in England, than the gallant successor of Nelson was ennobled by the title of Baron Collingwood of Coldborne and Hartpole, in the county of Northumberland; and on the same day, November the 9th, he was also announced in the gazette, as having been promoted to the rank of vice-admiral of the white squadron. A pension of 2000l. *per annum* has since been voted him by parliament, to continue during his own life, and that of his two next heirs, male; a grant which, during its passage through the house, in consequence of his lordship's having no sons, was extended to 1000l. *per annum*, for the life of Lady Collingwood, and 500l. *per annum*, for the life of each of his two daughters.

On the 28th of January, 1806, Lord Hawkesbury in the house of Lords, and Lord Castlereagh in the house of Commons, had the honour of moving the thanks of parliament for the victory of Trafalgar. In doing this, Lord Hawkesbury observed, that the late

Lord

Lord Nelson, "on leaving this country, expressed his satisfaction at the appointment of the noble Collingwood to the command, and his perfect confidence in his skill, talents, and exertions." His Lordship then proceeded to comment on the gallant and meritorious conduct of Lord Collingwood, in the action of Trafalgar, and of which, he said, many of the most skilful of the profession spoke in terms of unqualified applause.—Lord Hood said, "I will venture to presage, that the noble Lord (Collingwood) now in the command of his Majesty's fleet in the Mediterranean, wants only an opportunity to prove himself another Nelson, in judgment as well as valour."

Lord Collingwood, by the same express which carried to him the intelligence of his new honours, received also the confirmation of his appointment to remain on the same station, as commander-in-chief. In addition to various votes of thanks, from different public and corporate bodies, his lordship has received some valuable presents; among which an elegant and valuable silver vase, from the patriotic fund, must have been particularly acceptable.

Whilst we congratulate ourselves aud the nation at large on the continuance of Lord Collingwood in command, it would be unjust not to express our belief that, should an occasion present itself, his lordship will not fail to prove himself the true phœnix, risen from the hallowed ashes of his great predecessor.

THE

THE REV. DR. SAMUEL PARR.

THIS profound scholar, who has been respected, esteemed, and beloved through life, was born at Harrow-on-the-Hill, on the 26th of January, 1746-7. His father, a surgeon and apothecary of considerable eminence, placed him at the school which has so highly distinguished the place of his birth; where, partly under the care of Dr. Robert Sumner, but chiefly under that of Dr. Thackeray, he received his education. Contemporary there with Mr. Sheridan and the late Sir William Jones, at the early age of fourteen he was head boy in the school. From Harrow our young scholar was sent to Emanuel College, Cambridge, where his acquirements were fully proportionate to his earlier progress. The activity of his mind, however, was but ill calculated for the indolence of an academic life; and, as soon as it was possible to emerge from it, he became head-assistant in the school at which he had been brought up. This was before he had completed his twentieth year. He remained there in that capacity until the death of Dr. Sumner, when he offered himself as a candidate to succeed, but was rejected on account of his youth. It is a curious circumstance that, though he had been governing boys who were his quondam playfellows, they were so much attached

attached to him, that, on his rejection, a spirit of mutiny displayed itself amonst them, which was not quelled without considerable difficulty.

Mr. Parr had been already ordained by Dr. Terrick, bishop of London, in the year 1769; and, after his disappointment at Harrow, he removed thence to Stanmore, where he opened a school. Among many others at this place, the Rev. Mr. Maurice, the learned author of "*Indian Antiquities*," "*A History of Hindostan*," &c. and now sub-librarian at the British Museum, was his pupil. In the spring of 1777, Mr. Parr was appointed master of an endowed school at Colchester, whither he removed. This change afforded him the pleasing opportunity of cultivating the friendship of Dr. Foster and Mr. Twining. In the following year, however, he quitted his employment at Colchester, to superintend another academical institution at Norwich. During his residence in the latter city, in the year 1781, he took up his degree of LL. D. at Cambridge.

Hitherto Dr. Parr had been unknown to the world as a writer; but, having twice preached for the benefit of the charity-schools, the force of his eloquence and the beauty of his composition astonished and enraptured the whole congregation; and, so numerous were the applications which were made to him on the subject, that he was afterwards induced to publish the two discourses.—While the doctor resided at Norwich, the Rev. Edward Maltby, now chaplain to the bishop of Lincoln, and rector of Bugden, ranked among the number of his pupils.—In the year 1783, Dr Lowth, who had witnessed the rising merit of Dr. Parr, promoted him to be a prebend of the cathedral church of

St. Paul; and, in 1785, he was presented with the perpetual curacy of Hatton, a village in the neighbourhood of Warwick, by Lady Trafford. He now resigned his school at Norwich, and likewise the living of Asterby, in Lincolnshire, which he had some time holden; and, relinquishing the fatigue and hurry of public teaching, he removed early in 1786, to reside at his parsonage in Warwickshire. But it was not his intention to resign himself to a life of indolence; for, after enlarging and improving his house, he devoted his leisure to the private tuition of some pupils, whose minds he enriched with a taste for every moral and literary excellence.

Dr. Parr may henceforth be regarded more in the light of a literary character. In 1787, he assisted the late Mr. Henry Homer, formerly of Emanuel College, Cambridge, in preparing a new edition of the three books of Bellendenus "de Statu;" to which he wrote the preface, which is considered as one of the finest specimens of modern latinity extant. To each book he likewise furnished an appropriate dedication, remarkable for strength of thought and felicity of expression. Some particulars have since been given to the world by the Doctor, relative to his engagement with Mr. Homer, and of the rise and progress of the above-mentioned work.

In the year, 1789, *Tracts by Warburton, and a Warburtonian*, "not admitted into the collection of their respective works," were given to the public. Of those Dr. Parr was the editor; and, to the two tracts of a Warburtonian, at the end of the volume, he wrote the dedication and preface. This performance has been the subject of much animadversion and remark in the literary

literary world. Dr. Parr thus vindicates the publication:——"The bishop of Worcester has not deigned to give a place to the following tracts, in his late magnificent edition of Warburton's Works. By republishing them, however, without the permission of the R. R. editor, I mean not to arraign his taste or his prudence. —But among readers of discernment, the character of Bishop Warburton can suffer no diminution of its lustre from this re-publication. They who are curious in collecting books, must certainly be anxious to possess *all* the writings of that eminent prelate. They who mark with philosophic precision the progress of the human understanding, will look up to Warburton with greater reverence and astonishment, when they compare the better productions of his pen, with the worse." The same observations are applicable to the tracts by the Bishop of Worcester. These tracts had first been published, and afterwards denied a place among his acknowledged works. He had an undoubted right to suppress them. Another had an equal right to restore them to the world. Literature could sustain no injury but from their concealment."

In the course of 1790, Dr. Parr became acquainted with Dr. Priestly; and, in the following memorable year, in which the riots at Birmingham occurred, his connection with that gentleman had nearly brought on him the vengeance of the mob. In a pamphlet which Dr. Parr published on this occasion, he mentions his having visited Dr. Priestly and his friends, at a time when endeavors were making for a repeal of the *test act*; and observes that he was at a loss to see why a clergyman of the church of England should shun the presence of a dissenting minister, merely because they

they did not agree on doctrinal points. "Such, and such only," says the writer, speaking of the short intercourse which subsisted between himself and Dr. Priestly, "has been my connection with him. And was it for this that, in a season of deep distress and dreadful dangers, my principles were on a sudden gnawed at by vermin whisperers, and worried by brutal reproaches. That my house was marked out for conflagration? that my family were for three days and three nights agitated with consternation and dismay? that my books which I have been long collecting with indefatigable industry—upon which I have expended more than half the produce of more than twenty years unwearied labor—and which I considered as the pride of my youth, the employment of my riper age, and, perhaps the best solace of declining life—was it for this, I say, that my books were exposed to most unexpected, most unmerited destruction?"

It will be recollected, that the pretence for the outrages alluded to, was a meeting which had been holden by the dissenters on the 14th of July, 1791, in the celebration of the French revolution. In the spring of 1792, while the revolutionary furor was at its height, it was pretty generally reported, that a party still remained, stubborn enough to meditate another commemoration on the ensuing anniversary of that remarkable event. The most extensive alarm was excited by this belief, as such a step might have involved the whole town in destruction. The report soon reached the doctor, who, on the 17th of May, began and finished, *in the same day*, his "Letters from Irenopolis, to the Inhabitants of Eleutheropolis; or, a Serious Address to the Dissenters of Birmingham; by a

 Member

Member of the Established Church." That extraordinary pamphlet, containing forty octavo pages, rather closely printed, on no very large type, produced an advertisement from the dissenters, in which, after professing the purest loyalty and attachment to the Sovereign, they disclaimed all knowledge of any design to meet again.

In the same year, solely it is said for the accommodation of Dr. Budges, Dr. Parr exchanged the perpetual curacy of Hatton, for the rectory of Wadenhoe, in Northamptonshire. In the same year also, it was Dr. Parr's fate to be engaged in a dispute with the Rev. Charles Curtis, the rector of St. Martin's, Birmingham, on certain points connected with the preceding riots. This afforded the Doctor an opportunity of touching, in his own masterly way, on some of the most momentous topics in politics and religion; and, to the liberal minded, it must afford much satisfaction to know, that a reconciliation has since taken place between the two literary opponents.

A very amiable pupil of the Doctor, the only son of John Smitheman, Esq. died rather suddenly in the year 1794. To this youth Dr. Parr was much attached, and his premature death gave a violent shock to his feelings. In his books, and in the embellishment of his parish church, however, he sought for and obtained relief.——Early in the preceding year (1792) a new Review, called *The British Critic*, had been offered to the public, and had met with a favorable reception. From his acquaintance with the conductor of that work, Dr. Parr had been induced to lend it his assistance; and accordingly, in the beginning of this year, he entered upon an examination of Dr. Coombe's

Variorum

Variorum edition of Horace, which had then recently issued from the press. That work certainly derived no credit from the criticisms which were carried on through five numbers, and distinguished by acuteness of penetration, solidity of judgment, and depth of erudition. The editor was highly incensed at the critic, and contrary to whatever we recollect to have been done before in any similar case, called upon him *by name*, to retract his own assertions, and refute his own observations. Baffled in that attempt, Dr. Coombe at length published a small pamphlet, intitled, "A Statement of Facts relative to the Behaviour of Dr. Parr, to the late Mr. H. Homer, and Dr. Coombe." In that statement Dr. Parr was vehemently accused of breach of promise, violation of friendship, and even of want of veracity. How well and how successfully he defended himself against those charges will not soon be forgotten.

Dr. Parr married, about the year 1771, Miss Maisendale, by whom he has had several children, but only two of them are now living. The eldest, a daughter, was married, some years ago, to the eldest son of Colonel Wynn.

The extent of the Doctor's erudition, the powers of his eloquence, and the vast magnitude of his genius, are universally acknowledged. It has been remarked of him, that, as a divine, he is sedulous and beneficent; that his politics are not the offspring, and have never been the tools of party; that he is a warm friend, a tender parent, and a kind neighbor. As a preceptor, the treatment of his pupils has been paternal, and an affection truly filial has often been manifested by most of them towards him. For some time, however, he

has

has declined taking any more pupils; and it has long been his custom, in various parts of the kingdom, to spend his vacation holidays among those who have attained the period of manhood. His friends are of course numerous, and their conversation and correspondence have been his principal solace and relief through many years of unremitting toil. His powers of conversation, and his talent for repartee, are of a very high order. It is said, that just before Sir James Mackintosh, the new India Judge, sailed from England he and Dr. Parr had rather a sparring conversation respecting the fate of Quigley, the Irish priest, who was executed for treason. The legal knight summed up his new opinion, by saying, that it was impossible for a baser wretch to suffer condign punishment. "That I must deny," replied the Doctor, "for he was an Irishman, and might have been a *Scotchman*:—he was a Priest, and might have been a *Lawyer*:—he was a Traitor, and might have been an *Apostate*!"

Dr. Parr has taken uncommon pains in improving and embellishing his church; so much so, indeed, that many have considered it as too gorgeous. All the windows, excepting two, which belong to the singing gallery, are painted; and the pulpit and the other furniture are truly sumptuous and magnificent.

In the collection of books, the Doctor is equally assiduous; and for scarcity of edition, taste in selection, and wide range of literature, a more valuable collection has probably never been made by any single scholar, who was not a man of high rank, or splendid fortune.

GEORGE

Mr. Cooke

Mr. Coombe

Mr. Dibdin

GEORGE FREDERIC COOKE.

To trace the profession of an actor, through all its gradations, from the time of Thespis, that itinerant parent of the stage, to the present period, would be a task productive of considerable amusement. Nothing, perhaps, can exhibit a more vivid picture of what Thespis and his companions were, than our wandering troops of comedians, who display their mimic skill at country fairs, exciting the profound astonishment of their auditors. From the exertions of Thespis arose the first regular stage; and, from their representatives, the wandering tribes just alluded to, do the theatres of the present day, in many instances, derive their most able supporters.

There seems, however, to have been a sort of middle period, in the history of acting and of the drama, which bears but little relation, either to the original professors of the histrionic art, or to the improved state of the modern stage. The historical reader will be aware, that our remark points to the ancient *Mysteries*, a species of dramatic representation which might almost be thought to proceed from a distinct genus. Misson, the old French traveller, conveys a very accurate idea of these exhibitions, in a rude state, as they were represented by itinerants, on the continent, towards

wards the close of the seventeenth century. "Proceeding from Mittenvelt to Fresengen," says Misson, "we met a very pleasant troop of beggars. As soon as they perceived us, one of them, who carried a little tree laden with red fruits, planted it in the middle of the way, and sat down by the side of it; a little goblin, in the shape of a crocodile, fastened himself to the tree: and a girl, with long and dishevelled hair, approached to it; an old man, cloathed in black, with a peruke and beard of moss, stood at a little distance, with a young boy clad in white, who held a sword. When they thought we were near enough, the little devil opened the comedy with a doggrel song; and we could without difficulty guess, that they intended to represent the history and fall of Adam. One of us, as he passed by the old man, asked him, who was at a distance ftom the others, whether he was of their company; the poor creature answered very seriously, that he was *God the Father,* and that if we would stay a little, we should see him act his part, with his little dagger-carrier, who was *St. Michael the Archangel.* Such is the effect of the representations which they make of the Deity."

We have submitted these remarks, as forming a striking contrast to the theatricals of the present day, in which the celebrated actor, Mr. Cooke, has made such a distinguished figure.

This gentleman, who has acquired an unusual share of popularity, was born in the barracks of Dublin, in the year 1756; his father, who was a subaltern in the army, being at that time quartered there. Before he was three years old, his father brought him over to England, in the metropolis of which he remained till the

the age of seven, when he was sent to school in the north of England. He continued there for eight years, during which time he acquired somewhat of a provincial dialect, which has never entirely left him. His *penchant* for the stage was acquired at school, where he made his first theatrical attempt in the character of Horatio. The play was Hamlet; and, to personate the hero of the piece, was the summit of young Cooke's ambition. In this he was disappointed, as the character was claimed by a senior boy; but the approbation which he received in Horatio, who bore the palm from Hamlet, fully compensated him for the disadvantageous exchange.

A passion for theatricals, when it seizes the ardent mind of youth, is perhaps one of the strongest to which mankind is subject. It increases with years, and even in death is sometimes the ruling passion. This was exemplified in the late Mr. Powel. When on his death-bed, after his wife had taken her last farewel, and while Miss Hannah More was sitting by his side, his cheek became suddenly suffused with a lively color; and, throwing himself into an attitude, he exclaimed:—

"Is this a dagger which I see before me?"

a moment after, as though sensible of his imminent danger, he cried out, "O, God," and instantly expired.

At the age of fifteen, our stage-struck youth was sent to sea, where he served for some time in the navy, and on board of merchantmen. He afterwards returned, and was apprenticed to a trade; we believe that

that of a printer. His attachment to theatricals still continued; and, when he became his own master, he gave indulgence to his long repressed inclination.

Mr. Cooke's first appearance on any public stage, was at the Haymarket theatre, in the year 1778, where he played the part of *Castalio* in *The Orphan*, for the benefit of Mrs. Massey. The applause which he received on this occasion, encouraged him to pursue the profession to which his talents seemed peculiarly directed. He accordingly joined the Nottingham, and afterwards the Lincolnshire company; and, having acquired a competent knowledge of stage business, early in the year 1784, he obtained an engagement at the Theatre Royal, Manchester. At Manchester, at York, at Newcastle, at Chester, at Lancaster, &c. he was for some years, the unrivalled hero.

In 1794, Mr. Cooke was engaged by Mr. Daly, the then Dublin manager; and, in that metropolis, he performed with such considerable success, during a whole season, that he was induced to repeat his visit in the year 1797. He then remained three years in Dublin, with Mr. Jones, the new manager, until, in 1800, he formed an engagement with Mr. Harris, the liberal proprietor of Covent Garden theatre. He there made his first appearance, on the 31st of October, in the arduous character of *Richard the Third*, which he repeated several nights with an extraordinary degree of success, and with so much satisfaction to Mr. Harris, that he obtained an increase of salary and an early benefit.

Mr. Cooke's performance of Richard is generally admired, yet it must be allowed to be extremely unequal. In

In certain parts, it is equal to any thing that the mimic art is capable of producing; but, in others, it sinks almost below criticism. So very exquisite, however, are the better parts, as more than to atone for the deficiencies of others.—His succeeding characters, during the season 1800-1, were Shylock, Sir Archy M'Sarcasm, Sir Pertinax Macsycophant, Iago, Kitely, and Sir Giles Overreach.

It was intended to open the season of 1801-2, at Covent Garden, with the play of *Richard the Third*, and Mr. Cooke was announced in the bills for the character of *Richard*. The acting-managers' letter, however, which was addressed to Mr. Cooke at Manchester, apprising him thereof, was not received in time, in consequence of his departure from that town. The disappointment which was thus produced excited a considerable ferment in the theatrical world, until the cause was explained. It afterwards appeared that, on the very night for which he was announced at Covent Garden, he played for his own benefit at Newcastle, where, in consequence of over-exertion, he is said to have broken a blood-vessel, which retarded his return to London. On the first night of his re-appearance, however, he made a suitable apology to the audience, and was received in the most flattering manner.

A sort of rivalship may be said to have taken place between Cooke and Kemble, who was just then returned from his continental excursion, as both of them continued to play the part of Richard, for several nights, at the two winter theatres. The contest, though not carried to that height, nor protracted to that length, which distinguished the rival Romeos, in the

the days of Garrick, was productive of two pamphlets in support of the respective heroes, and of a superabundance of newspaper criticisms. The pamphlets, as might be expected in such a case, were both of them violent and partial in the extreme. The merit of the two actors, however, is of a distinct nature, and can scarcely be considered as clashing with each other. Mr. Kemble's performance of Richard is the more studiously correct, while Cooke's is the more energetic and impressive. In Kemble's personation of the part, every pause was critically arranged, every emphasis was justly placed, and the sense was accurately given throughout; while Cooke, though his colours and semi-colours were not regulated by a stop-watch, though his emphasis was frequently false, and though he sometimes marred the meaning of the author, displayed such vivid strokes of nature, such brilliant corruscations of original genius, as entitled him, on the whole, to a decided preference. His roughness and want of elegance seemed even to accord more naturally with the character. This rivalship, if it were really such, has long since subsided; for, under the management of Mr. Kemble, Mr. Cooke is suffered to retain his own characters; and these two performers occasionally play together in the same pieces.

By the friends of Mr. Cooke it must certainly be considered as fortunate, that Macbeth was not the character in which a comparison of his talents with those of Mr. Kemble was instituted: as we believe every real critic must be of opinion, that the personation of the Scottish Thane, by the former, is one of the very worst pieces of acting which the English stage can

can produce. Mr. Kemble's, on the other hand, is one of the best.

In Shylock, as in Richard, Cooke is great, but unequal. His beauties, however, are not so striking, nor are his defects so glaring, in the former, as in the latter character.—His Iago, his Kitely, and his Sir Giles Overreach, are entitled to more unqualified approbation: they are strongly sketched, highly coloured, and admirably finished pictures: but, to witness the unrivalled excellence of Mr. Cooke, he should be seen in Sir Pertinax Macsycophant, and in Sir Archy M'Sarcasm, the heroes of Macklin's two pieces, *The Man of the World*, and *Love A-la-Mode*. In these he stands upon unassailable ground.

Hamlet, a character in which we believe Mr. Cooke appeared for the first time in London, on one of his own benefit nights, must be ranked among his unfortunate performances. His inelegance of manner, and absolute deficiency in every thing like princely deportment, totally preclude him from all hope of success, in personating the Danish hero. Hamlet, that "glass of fashion, and that mould of form," should never be attempted by an actor, whose accomplishments and personal requisities are not of the first order.—Twice have we seen Mr. Cooke enact the *Ghost* in this play, but, so high were his *spirits* on those occasions, we hesitate in pronouncing an opinion on the performance. The good-nature of an English audience has, perhaps, never been more strikingly displayed than in its forbearance towards the bacchanalian flights of this actor. In justice to Mr. Cooke, however, it must be admitted that, while sober reason holds her seat, his manner is sufficiently respectful; and never has he

 evinced

evinced that contemptuous spirit towards his patrons, by which the celebrated Pitrot was as much distinguished, as by his extraordinary professional merit. This consequential prince of all the skipping, capering tribe, whose pride, obstinacy, impudence, and skill became proverbial at all the courts of Europe, tacked the august appellation of *Le Grand* to his parental name! Some years ago, when at Vienna, he chose to appear only in the last act of a *ballet*. On the emperor's desire that he should make his *entré* at the end of the first act, he answered the officer, *that men of talent never rendered themselves too cheap*. The monarch instantly left the opera, and the whole court followed his example. Pitrot, on being informed of this, stepped forward, and in the face of the whole remaining audience, thus addressed the dancers:—"*Mes enfants, nous dansons pour nous mêmes, et non pas pour l'empereur;*" and it is said that he was never known to dance so well. However, strange as it may appear, the emperor forgave the insult; and, when he understood that Pitrot's engagement was finished, and he on the point of departing, he sent this favourite exotic a gold snuff-box, with his picture set round with brilliants. Pitrot was under the hands of his hair-dresser, when a colonel belonging to the emperor's guards delivered him the present. Pitrot took it after a careless manner, looked at it, then pressed his thumb upon the crystal, and crushed the picture; which done, he gave the box to his hair-dresser, and bade the officer tell his master, that that was the way he dispofed of baubles sent him by men he did not think worthy of his friendship; then stepped into his carriage, and just got out of the emperor's dominions time enough to

save

save his head, a party of hussars having been dispatched in pursuit of him.*

Mr. Cooke has appeared with considerable success in some of our modern pieces; particularly as *Orsino*, in Lewis's tragedy of *Alfonso*, as *Perigrine*, in Colman's comedy of *John Bull*, and as one of the principal characters in Mrs. Inchbald's *comedie larmoyante, To Marry or not to Marry*. His acting in the last play was of a far more gentlemanly cast than we had ever before witnessed in the same performer.

The advantages and disadvantages of Mr. Cooke's personal and natural qualifications are both considerable. The unusual shortness of his arms destroys the symmetry of his form, and the harsh dissonance of his voice materially lessens the effect which his acting would otherwise produce. His features, however, are favourably cast for many characters; and, when habited in the old English *costume*, the outline of his face seems to bear a considerable resemblance to the portraits of Henry the VIIIth. Mr. Cooke's pronunciation is as defective as his voice: it is extremely incorrect, and wholly without system. He possesses, however, an originality and force of genius which almost defy analysis.

We believe it was in the year 1800, that Mr. Cooke became united to Miss Alicia Daniels, one of the principal vocal performers at the Bath and Bristol theatres; but, in the summer of the following year, the validity of the marriage was discussed at Doctor's Commons, before the Right Honourable Sir William Scott

* *Vide* Memoirs of Lee Lewis.

who pronounced it to be null and void. Mr. Cooke has been since married to a young lady, formerly of Drury-Lane Theatre.---During the seasons of 1801, 2, and 3, Miss Daniels was engaged at Vauxhall; and, in 1804, at the little theatre in the Haymarket. She has been since married to Mr. Windsor, a musician.

THE

THE LATE

DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE.

"This female possessed many charms besides her beauty: she "was well versed in polite literature, played upon the lyre, "and had made considerable improvements in the study of "philosophy. What is still more wonderful, she exhibited "none of that petulance and affectation which such studies are "apt to produce in women."

LANGHORNE'S PLUTARCH.

THIS beautiful and accomplished lady, of whom, on her demise, the prince of Wales is said to have exclaimed, "then have we lost the most amiable and best bred woman in England," was at once a Cavendish and a Spencer; consequently both descended from, and united to, two of the greatest whig families in England. Her grace, on the one hand, was great-grand-daughter of the famous Duke of Marlborough, who vindicated England against monarchical France, in the celebrated battles of Ramilies and Blenheim; and, on the other, the wife and mother of two lineal descendants of that highly meritorious nobleman, William the fourth Earl of Devonshire, who was principally instrumental in bringing about the revolution of 1688.

 Georgiana,

Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, was the eldest daughter of the late John, Earl Spencer, by Georgiana Caroline, daughter of John Carteret, Earl Granville. She was born on the 9th of June, 1757, and educated under the immediate care of her venerable mother, the present Countess Dowager Spencer. From her cradle she displayed the most promising symptoms of worth and loveliness; and, while yet in the bud, anticipated the beauty and fragrance of the future rose. Even before the period of her presentation at court, the fame of Lady Georgiana's charms had been universally spread; and all were equally inquisitive to learn for whom fate had destined so lovely, so fascinating a partner. This happy lot was in store for the young Duke of Devonshire, to whom Lady Georgiana was united on the sixth of June, 1774, three days before she had completed her seventeenth year. The world of fashion was now destined to undergo a complete revolution. At the first drawing-room to which the young duchess repaired after her marriage, she was accompanied by all the distinguished females of the two great families whence she was descended, and perhaps a more brilliant day was never witnessed at St. James's.

> "The bloom of opening flowers, unsullied beauty,
> Softness and sweetest innocence she wore,
> And looked like nature in the world's first spring."

These beautiful lines of Rowe may perhaps be thought but ill-applied to a modern woman of fashion, in a court dress, and bending beneath a load of jewellery; yet there was such a sweet simplicity, such a native grace, such an almost angelic loveliness in her appear-

appearance, as fully to justify their quotation. The Duchess of Devonshire was, on that day, "the observed of all observers." One little anecdote, connected with this day of splendor, deserves to be mentioned, as forming a contrast to the taste of the present times:---the bride is said to have worn a pair of diamond buckles, of very large dimensions, which either from their *weight* or pressure, produced a lameness, so that the emblazoned fair one was obliged to remain at home for several days after.

The duchess now became the leader of female fashion; the apron, the gown, the cap, were all *Devonshire*, being closely copied from the cloaths which were worn, or supposed to be worn, by her. In the present day, our *belles* of *ton* have their Nelson caps, and their Trafalgar pelices; and, when the contest with America gave a military direction to public affairs, when men of the first rank and fortune in the kingdom were proud to emulate the life and habits of a soldier, the Duchess of Devonshire was seen at Tiptree and Warley camps, dressed out in the regimentals of the Derby militia, of which her husband, the duke, was colonel. From that period, all the women both young and old, from the love-sick miss just let loose from boarding-school, to the great-grand-mamma of eighty, were seized with a kind of military furor, and appeared, even during the dog-days, decked out in scarlet broad-cloth.---At the time here alluded to, the feminine attire and mode of dress were far different from those which now prevail. Instead of a transparent muslin dress, and a single thin calico petticoat, the bell-hoop, and the apparatus of whale-bone, which had continued from the age of the Stuarts to that

that of George the Third, with three or four comfortable under garments of flannel, were in vogue; while the waist, "small by degrees, and *beautifully* less," was contracted by art, so as to assume a shape, leaving scarcely sufficient room for the ordinary functions of the body. Some ladies contented themselves with a waist the size of a pumpkin, and others reduced it to that of a melon, while the true Devonshire standard of taste and beauty is said to have been exactly "*an orange and a half!*" Within these few years the ladies have contrived to have "no waist at all;" but to produce such a wonderful effect, they resorted to more simple means than that of *straight-lacing*. Soon after the Duchess of Devonshire's reign commenced, however, fashion began to make her approaches towards simplicity; and, although nothing is so changeable as a lady's head-dress, yet, since that period, the exuberances of ornament have been gradually curtailed, the masses of flour, of bear's grease, and of mutton fat, have been wholly disused, and our modern *tetes* have been made to affect all the simplicity of the ancient statues.

At the general election in 1780, the Duchess of Devonshire very strenuously exerted herself in favor of Mr. Fox, the present secretary of state. The story of the butcher selling his vote for a kiss of the lovely canvasser, is well known. Among a variety of other *jeux d'esprit* which appeared on this occasion, was the following complimentary Epigram:—

"Array'd in matchless beauty, Devon's fair,
In Fox's favour takes a zealous part:
But oh! where'er the *pilferer* comes—beware!
She *supplicates* a vote, and *steals* a heart."

A period

A period of more than nine years had elapsed, after the nuptials of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire before the birth of their first child, Lady Georgiana Cavendish, the present Viscountess Morpeth; after an interval of four years more, Lady Elizabeth Henrietta was born; and, after another interval of four years, (May 21, 1790) her Grace was safely delivered of a son and heir, the present William George Cavendish, Marquis of Hartington, who was born at Autouil, near Paris.

A very amiable trait in the maternal character of the late Duchess, is supposed to have been alluded to in the following lines, the composition of one of the most elegant poets of the present age:——

"So when the mother, bending o'er his charms,
Clasps her fair nursling in delighted arms,
Throws the thin kerchief from her neck of snow,
And half unveils the pearly orbs below;
With sparkling eye the blameless plunderer owns
Her soft embraces and endearing tones,
Seeks the salubrious fount with opening lips,
Spreads his enquiring hands, and smiles, and sips.

"Connubial fair! whom no fond transport warms
To lull your infant in maternal arms;
Who, blest in vain with tumid bosoms, hear
His tender wailings with unfeeling ear;
The soothing kiss and milky rill deny
To the sweet pouting lip and glistening eye!

"Ah! what avails the cradle's damask'd roof,
The eider bolster, the embroidered woof!——
Oft hears the gilded couch unpitied plains,
And many a tear the tassel'd cushion stains!
No voice so sweet attunes his cares to rest,
So soft no pillow as his mother's breast."

The

The Duchess, who had twice visited Paris, was now for some time confined, by her maternal duties, to Piccadilly, Chiswick, and Chatsworth. During the summer of 1792, however, induced to undertake the journey by the declining health of two near relations, her mother Lady Spencer, and her sister Lady Duncannon, now Countess of Besborough, she once more visited the continent. Lady Elizabeth Foster was also of the party. Having passed through France, and entered the *Pays de Vaud*, they reached Lausanne in the month of August, and resided for some time at *Le Petit Ouchy*, an elegant little retreat in that neighbourhood. While there, the celebrated historian, Gibbon, was almost daily of their parties; and, occasionally, that admired traveller had also the honor of entertaining the illustrious travellers. On his revisiting London in the next autumn, he renewed his acquaintance in Piccadilly, where, in his own words, he found "the fine ladies making flannel waistcoats."

Before our fair travellers quitted the retreat of *Le Petit Ouchy*, the season was considerably advanced; and as Mount Cenis had become impassable, they were obliged to penetrate into Italy by a long circuitous route, through the Tyrol.

After passing several months in the genial climate of Italy, the Duchess, having most amiably performed the duties of a daughter and a sister, deemed it proper to fulfil those of a mother also. Her grace accordingly left the ladies Spencer and Besborough, who intended to pass the winter in Naples, at the baths of Lucca; and, bidding farewel to the fertile plains of Lombardy, prepared to scale the St. Gothard in her return to Switzerland. Having embarked on the Lago Maggiore,

Maggiore, at the little town of Sesto, where the confluence of the Tessino with the lake takes place, our accomplished countrywoman navigated its glassy surface, and beheld its shores interspersed with villages and a rich scenery, which served to amuse the eye until it finally reposed on the distant Alps. Her Grace landed at Magadino, one of the three Cisalpine Balliages belonging to Switzerland, and, with her suite, ascended the tremendous St. Gothard by a road which nearly follows the course of the Tessino. At the top of the mountain they were entertained by the Capuchin monks, after which they descended into the valley of Ursera, crossing the Devil's Bridge, below which they beheld the Reuss, swelled by this time to a torrent.——On re-entering Switzerland, the spires of Altorf recalled the memory of that celebrated and bloodless revolution which gave liberty to a nation; while the chapel of William Tell excited, in the patriotic bosom of her Grace, the most delightful sensations. These sensations are admirably depicted, in the following beautiful stanzas, extracted from her celebrated poem, entitled, *The Passage of the Mountain of St. Gothard.* After describing the scenes already past, the fair poet proceeds :——

"But though no more amidst those scenes I roam,
My fancy long its image shall retain—
The flock returning to its welcome home—
And the wild carol of the cow-herd's strain.

Lucerna's lake its glassy surface shows,
Whilst Nature's varied beauties deck its side :
Here rocks and woods its narrow waves inclose
And there its spreading bosom opens wide.

And

And hail the chapel! hail the platform wild!
Where *Tell* directed the avenging dart;
With well-strung arm, at first preserved his child,
Then winged the arrow to the tyrant's heart.

Across the lake, and deep embower'd in wood,
Behold another hallow'd chapel stand,
Where three Swiss heroes lawless force withstood,
And stamp'd the freedom of their native land.

Their liberty requir'd no rites uncouth,
No blood demanded, and no slaves enchain'd;
Her rule was gentle, and her voice was truth,
By social order formed, by law restrain'd.

We quit the lake—and cultivation's toil,
With Nature's charms combin'd, adorn the way;
And well-earn'd wealth improves the ready soil,
And simple manners still maintain their sway.

Farewell Helvetia—from whose lofty breast
Proud Alps arise, and copious rivers flow;
Where, source of streams, eternal glaciers rest,
And peaceful science gilds the plains below.

Oft on thy rocks the wond'ring eye shall gaze,
Thy vallies oft the raptur'd bosom seek—
There, Nature's hand her boldest work displays
Here bliss domestic beams on every cheek.

Hope of my life! dear children of my heart!
That anxious heart, to each fond feeling true,
To you still pants, each pleasure to impart,
And more—O transport!—reach its home and you."

This exquisite poem has been translated into French, by the celebrated Abbè de Lille, the best versifier who ever wrote in that language.

We have heard it stated, but can by no means vouch for the authenticity of the anecdote, that, shortly after her

her Grace was married, she was led to sacrifice somewhat too freely at the shrine of Pharo; a circumstance which proved not only injurious to her purse but to her health. On one of these occasions, when the fair regent of night had been superseded by the rays of the morning, ere the ardent devotees had concluded their nocturnal rites, the Duchess returned to the mansion of her lord; but, from the unseasonableness of the hour, the gates were closed, and peremptory orders had been given, that they should not be opened. Her Grace immediately drove down to the country residence of her father; but there also, on stating the motive of her visit, she was refused admission, the earl observing, that he would on no account be the means of *parting man and wife*.

The Duchess was long a pattern of conjugal and maternal virtue; and, during the late war, she endeared herself to the country, by the anxious interest which she took in the health of our protecting armies. We have already mentioned, that the celebrated Gibbon found her in the humble but meritorious employment of making flannel waistcoats for the soldiers. In this employment she long persevered; and, by her example, contributed much to the comfort of our military heroes.

Of late years her Grace did not appear so much in the gay world as formerly; yet she sometimes enlivened the higher circles with her presence, and, in 1801, when the *Pic Nic* society was formed, she stood forth at the head of that institution.

In the present war, the Duchess had the honor of being reckoned among the British lady-patronesses of the Volunteers. In the month of October, 1803, she presented

sented the colours to the St. Mary-le-bonne corps, commanded by her relation, Lord Duncannon. Dressed *en militaire* in a purple velvet bonnet, with a gold star button, and a plume of ostrich feathers, she went in procession, accompanied by a suite of noble relatives, and surrounded by a guard of honor to Lord's Cricket Ground, Mary-le-bonne, where the ceremony was performed.

Her Grace, to whom a lengthened number of days was denied, departed this life on the morning of Sunday, March the 30th, 1806, in the 49th year of her age. Her disorder, which terminated so fatally, is understood to have been an abscess of the liver, the first attack of which was perceived about three months before her death, while she sat at the table of the Marquis of Stafford. From that period, its feverish progress so increased, as eventually to resist all the efforts of the first medical skill.—Her Grace's remains were taken, in funeral procession, from Piccadilly, on the Sunday after her death; and, on the Wednesday following, they were interred, with great pomp and solemnity, in the family vault, in St. Stephen's Church, Derby. The hearse was met three miles from Derby by the whole of the country nobility, and the Duke's tenantry residing there, who conducted the remains to the place of interment.

The Duchess of Devonshire possessed a highly cultivated taste for poetry and the fine arts; was a liberal encourager of them in others; and, above all, she had the exalted merit, of never failing to advocate and relieve the cause of misfortune.——

> "Her kindly melting heart,
> To every want and every woe,

To

To guilt itself, when in distress,
The balm of pity would impart,
And all relief that bounty could bestow!
E'en for the kid or lamb, that pour'd its life
Beneath the bloody knife.
Her gentle tears would fall;
Tears, from sweet virtue's source, benevolent to all!"

In the continuing words of Lord Lyttleton, she was——

"Not only good and kind,
But strong and elevated was her mind;
A spirit that with noble pride
Could look superior down
On Fortune's smile or frown;
That could, without regret or pain,
To Virtue's lowest duty sacrifice
Or Interest or Ambition's highest prize;
That, injured or offended, never tried
Its dignity, by vengeance, to maintain.
But by magnanimous disdain.
A wit that, temperately bright,
With inoffensive light
All pleasing shone; nor ever past
The decent bounds that Wisdom's sober hand,
And sweet Benevolence's mild command,
And bashful Modesty, before it cast.
A prudence undeceiving, undeceiv'd,
That nor too little nor too much believ'd;
That scorn'd unjust Suspicion's coward fear,
And, without weakness, knew to be sincere.
Such Lucy was, when, in her fairest days,
Amidst th' acclaim of universal praise,
In life's and glory's freshest bloom,
Death came remorseless on, and sunk her to the tomb."

DR. WILLIAM THOMSON.

IN the progress of Dr. Thomson, we contemplate an interesting instance of literary industry. From an humble origin, we perceive him advancing in life, by dint of intellect and assiduity alone, until he attains that station in which perhaps the truest happiness is found.

This gentleman, to whom modern literature is so much indebted, was born in the year 1746, at Burnside, in the parish of Forteviot, Strathern, in Perthshire. His father, Mathew Thomson, was a carpenter and house-builder, and held a small farm of the Earl of Kinnoul, whose seat (Duplin) is in the adjoining parish. His mother was daughter of a Mr. Miller, schoolmaster at Airntully, near Dunkeld.

Young William, the subject of the present sketch, after he had learned to read from his mother, was sent to Forteviot school to learn writing and arithmetic. Perceiving that his genius was fitted for higher attainments, Mr. Young, his schoolmaster, advised his parents to suffer him to be instructed in the Latin tongue; to which, though their circumstances were confined, and he was one of thirteen children, they assented. Mr. Young was afterwards translated to Inchture; but, at his solicitation, seconded by Mr. Randall, the clergyman of that place, who had a son about William's age, he was suffered to remain under his tuition.

William soon discovered the character of his reverend

verend patron, which was not without a sufficient portion of fanaticism. Mr. Randall assisted in the tuition, both of his son and of young Thomson, and was at considerable pains to inspire the youths with a horror against popery. Dr. Thomson has been heard to relate the following as one of the modes by which he endeavored to imprint on their juvenile minds a proper abhorrence of Antichrist :——He would shew them a map of Europe, with certain parts marked with red lines. These lines described the progress of the Holy Spirit in converting sinners, and making the simple wise. Exhibiting to the boys Scotland, with which they were best acquainted, he traced the course of the Holy Spirit through the southern and western counties, wherein the line had no interruption, that is, where enthusiasm had pervaded the whole country. There were small specks or dots of red in the eastern and northern parts, where the Spirit had occasionally reached and established detached out-posts, though at a great distance from the head-quarters! The red line was not to be seen in Strathmore, the Stormont, or Athol, these being the seats of sound and rational religion without puritanical fanaticism. An extraordinary portion of ochre was placed upon Stirling, an excellent benefice, which was afterwards holden by this spiritual geographer himself.

This tissue of absurdity had very different effects on the minds of the two youths. To William, whose mind was ardent and penetrative, it gave a bias somewhat unfavorable to religion in general, but young Randall, a plastic subject of example and authority, was rendered by it the very saint that his father wished to form.

After

After William had been nearly three years at Inchture, Mr. Young dying, he was sent to the grammar-school at Perth, and his comrade to Haddington. It was the wish of Mr. Randall, that the boys should maintain an epistolary correspondence; but the different casts of their respective characters rendered this wish unavailing.

At Perth, young Thomson soon attracted the notice of Mr. Cornfute, master of the school; and, having made great proficiency in the classics, he was sent, at the age of fifteen, to St. Andrew's University. Here he established a very high character as a classical scholar, and a still higher one as a profound metaphysician. The Earl of Kinnoul, who was fond of the acquaintance of literary men, was frequently visited by the professors of St. Andrew's, during the vacations. In the summer of 1763, some of these gentlemen mentioned to his lordship William Thomson, the son of one of his tenants, as a youth of great promise, and highly deserving of his patronage. His lordship took an early opportunity of sending for Thomson, and being highly pleased with his genius and attainments, received him into his family, and entrusted him with the care of his library; an appointment which proved extremely beneficial to his mind.

The Earl of Kinnoul, who was much attached to the clergy, had several livings in his own gift, and on that account he destined William for holy orders. In this he totally mistook the young man's character. Of an open and social turn, William was much inclined to convivial parties; was fully sensible of the power of female charms; and, though not more addicted to gallantry than most other young men of twenty, he was not

not so complete an ascetic as the strictness of the Scottish church required. Had his patron educated him for the bar, he might, and most probably would, have been at its head. The Earl, however, stimulated him to close application in his theological studies; and having left the philosophy college, Mr. Thomson proceeded to the divinity college at St. Andrew's, which he attended for six years.

Lord Kinnoul having procured for his *protegé* (who was looked up to as the soundest scholar in the University,) one of the exhibitions called King's Bursaries, and being also liberal himself, Mr. Thomson found himself in tolerably easy circumstances. Having been ten sessions at St. Andrew's, he went, with the consent of his Lordship, to Edinburgh, for two years more. He was there introduced to the late Drs. Blair, and Robertson, and commenced a permanent intimacy with Mr. Dugald Stuart. In the literary clubs of Edinburgh, the rhetorical talents of Mr. Thomson obtained him considerable celebrity.

To the hospitable mansion of Duplin, great numbers of intelligent men resorted, in summer, from different quarters; and, with strangers, the Earl frequently sent Thomson on tours to view the country, the compartments, striking features, and physical and moral character, of which he very thoroughly understood, and could very ably exhibit. In recounting the particulars of some of these tours, he has frequently related the following anecdote, as illustrative of the diversity of commercial ideas, or rather terms, in different parts of the kingdom.——Accompanying a great London merchant on a tour to Taymouth, the picturesque and grand abode of the Earl of Breadalbane,

bane, so much admired by visitors of the Highlands, they, at a village called Logieraite, met with two persons who assisted the servants in feeding the horses. The London gentleman conversing with these peasants, asked what their professions were? They both immediately answered MERCHANTS, and that they were going to a neighbouring fair with their packs. The stranger was much amused with the idea of such merchants. William, however, observed, that that was an early stage of mercantile progress, in the general course of commerce.

Mr. Thomson having now obtained the first degree of Scotch orders, his patron was desirous that he should become assistant to the parish in which Duplin was situated, with the reversion of the living, then held by an old gentleman named Ranken. The Earl proposed to allow a liberal salary out of his own pocket, so that the minister might be relieved from duty without a diminution of income; but the old gentleman was offended at the offer; and Lord Kinnoul, disappointed in this immediate project, recommended his pupil to the Earl of Hopetoun, who promised him the first vacancy in his gift. In the mean time Mr. Thomson continued to preach for the clergy in the neighbourhood, and also to superintend the library at Duplin. In this repository, he one day found a Latin treatise, purporting to be a letter of Archimedes to the King of Syracuse, in which the renowned mathematician uses precisely the same argument against the credibility of miracles, as is employed by Hume. Archimedes cannot believe the fables of the poets, and the prodigies recorded by historians, *because he has no experience of such things himself, nor ever knew any one*

who

who had such experience, and because, as far as he knows of the common course of nature, it is uniformly in opposition to tales of miracles, prodigies, and deviations from the regular phenomena of nature. Mr. Thomson discovered this production to have come from the pen of the celebrated Dr. Pitcairn, and was supposed to have been presented by him to Lord Kinnoul's father. At the request of his Lordship, Mr. Thomson translated the tract into English, in a manner that gave very great satisfaction.

From interested and envious motives, some of the dependants at Duplin advised Lord Kinnoul to procure for Mr. Thomson the reversion of the living of Monivaird; hinting that Mr. Porteus, by whom it was then occupied, would be extremely thankful for such an assistant ordained as his successor. His Lordship agreed to this proposal, and, as Mr. Porteus had previously been sounded on the subject, the necessary arrangements were soon made. Thomson perceived the motives of the secret advisers; but, though conscious that his presence was necessary at Duplin, to counteract their machinations, he chose not to refuse what he knew was intended by the Earl for his benefit. Lord Kinnoul promised that his new employment should not impede his exertions in his favour, and he allowed him fifty pounds a year out of his own purse during the life of Mr. Porteus, and obtained twenty pounds more from the landholders. Mr. Thomson was accordingly ordained. The presbytery of Auchterarder, to which the parish of Monivaird belonged, was remarkable for religious gloom and fanatical austerity; a circumstance well known to the enemies of Thomson. Our young minister was neither rigidly

severe in his manners, nor rigorously adherent to all the horrors of puritanical orthodoxy; notwithstanding which he was much liked, even in the presbytery of Auchterarder. His sermons cost him but little trouble; for, by meditating a few minutes on the Sunday morning, he found himself able to deliver a discouse replete with sense and eloquence, while some of his brethren were at hard labour through the whole week, to strain out a sufficient quantity of mystical nonsense.

Mr. Thomson was ordained in 1776, and, the following year, he acquired great fame by a speech which he delivered in the general assembly, on the following occasion:---A person of the name of Lawson had applied for a licentiate's orders; and though against his character and qualifications there could be no objection, some of the ministers opposed him on account of an extreme uncouthness in his manners, and great ignorance of the world, and particularly of every thing approaching to genteel life. The fact is said to be, that Campbell, the minister of Auchterarder, entertained a grudge against Mr. Lawson's father, for having opposed his appointment to the Kirk of Auchterarder. Thomson, who had been chosen one of the deputies or representatives of the presbytery in the general assembly, to which Mr. Lawson had appealed, supported the appeal, on the ground that students in divinity have claims to ordination, having gone through the prescribed course of study, if nothing can be urged against their literary attainments, or their moral character, although they should be deficient in what the French call *petites mouers*, or manners. "The churches of the reformation, (said Mr. Thomson, after

ter a good deal of reasoning) in general, but that of Scotland in particular, have been much indebted to rustic apostles; and in the presbytery of Auchterarder, in particular, this excessive studiousness of fashion and politeness is but a novelty. Such an apostle appeared about two thousand years ago, on the banks of the Jordan, preaching repentance, and announcing the approaching reign of grace, and the remission of sins. The world confessed his right to preach a doctrine he so well practised, and the united effect of precept and example was prodigious. But had this preacher, in the spirit of Elias, come, or should he yet appear on the banks of the Ern, and seek the communion of our good presbytery, begirt as he was with a leathern belt, clothed in the skin of a camel, and chewing the while his locust, and sucking his wild honey:---Pray, Sir, who is your barber? We should be ashamed to be seen with you on the *town-lone* (the street) of Auchterarder."

This speech, on which Mr. Thomson was highly complimented, and the substance of which afterwards was published in *The Caledonian Mercury*, excited a burst of laughter in the assembly, and had the happy effect of producing universal sympathy in favour of Lawson, whose claim was fully established.

Mr. Thomson, during the few years that he was minister of Monivaird, was invited by Dr. Robertson to correspond with him, which he did with equal pleasure to himself and to the doctor, who always spoke of Mr. Thomson with great kindness.

The celebrity which Mr. Thomson acquired at the general assembly was very pleasing to the Earl of Kin noul; but his living-hunting enemies, when they went

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to Duplin, though they admitted that the young orator possessed great talents, affected to lament that he should not put them to a better use; and, exaggerating Thomson's convivial pleasures, began to make an impression on the earl. Mr. Thomson, whose conduct had certainly not been marked by austerity, found it expedient to resign his charge; and, not chusing to seek another church living in a less censorious place, he bade adieu to Scotland, and determined to try his fortune in London, a scene far more suitable to first-rate genius and learning than the presbytery of Auchterarder. At his departure, the earl, in whose breast an affectionate concern for one whom, from his seventeenth year, he had brought up and educated in his own family, was not extinguished, gave orders to Mr. Henry Fowler, one of the principal clerks of the Treasury, and who, like Thomson, had been brought up in his own family, to pay him his yearly allowance as usual, until he should find himself in some measure established in London.——Whether Mr. Thomson were really very successful in his pursuits, or whether he only wished to be thought so in his native country, we know not; but he did not call for the fifty pounds more than two or three years. His first visit to the Treasury occasioned the following amusing incident.---As he came out, he was met by Professor Dunbar, of Aberdeen, whose great object it was, by political writing, to render himself of consequence to government. As they walked together towards Parliament-street, Dr. Dunbar asked Thomson whither he was going?—Whether they might not go some where and dine together? Thomson, without hesitation, told him he was going to Drummond's, the banker,

banker, to get money for a draft from Mr. Fowler, and that he would then be in proper circumstances to dine with him. He told Dunbar that he might go to Drummond's along with him. He did so; saw the money paid, and was immediately convinced that, though he himself had not obtained any thing, and scarcely attention on account of his essays, this fellow had already been taken into the pay of the Treasury. After dinner he fairly put the question, whether he was not in the pay of ministry? Thomson, to teaze and vex Dunbar, confirmed him in the belief that it was so, by slightly denying it, or evading the question, by turning the subject.

Soon after Mr. Thomson's arrival in London, Dr. Robert Watson, author of the History of Philip II. died, leaving his manuscript History of Philip III. about half finished; and it being conceived by the guardians of his orphan daughters (Dr. Robertson, Dr. Blair, Mr. Dempster, and Mr. Shaw) that the manuscripts might be revised, carried on, completed, and advantageously sold, for the benefit of their wards, it was proposed by Drs. Blair and Robertson, who highly prized the abilities of Mr. Thomson, that the task should be committed to him. To this the other guardians readily agreed; Mr. Thomson executed the undertaking to their most complete satisfaction; the work was very advantageously sold; and the celebrated Dr. Smith unreservedly declared, that "Mr. Thomson's part was incomparably the best." Dr. Chalmers, a Scotch clergyman, was so highly pleased with our author's talents, as exhibited in this work, that he formed the intention of committing a manuscript, on the comparative merits and genius of

 Xenophon

Xenophon and Plato, to his care, to be revised and printed under his inspection at London. Dr. Chalmers's death, however, prevented the execution of this design.——On the publication of Philip III. the University of Glasgow presented Mr. Thomson with a gratuitous degree of LL. D.; and, on the following day, he was offered the same compliment from Edinburgh, through the medium of his friend, Mr. Dugald Stewart.

Dr. Thomson was now professedly a literary man. His first employment was to write a commentary on a Bible, published in the name of Harrison, then the most popular preacher in London. At the recommendation of the present Bishop of Salisbury, he was fixed on by the late Dr. Hollingberry, to be the editor and translator of Cunningham's manuscript Latin History of Great Britain, from the revolution to the accession. His execution of this undertaking rendered a valuable work, before accessible to the learned only, a very pleasing and instructive addition to English literature.---About the year 1782, Dr. Thomson published a sort of political romance, under the title of *The Man of the Moon*, in which the great senator, Mr. Fox, is a very conspicuous character. He next wrote, *Memoirs of the War in Asia*, from 1780 to 1784, manifesting the formidable confederacy concerted by Hyder Ally and France, and including a pathetic account of the sufferings incurred by discomfitted valor from the barbarity of oriental despotism.—In 1789, Dr. Thomson published another political and moral romance, entitled, *Mammoth; or, Human Nature displayed, upon a Grand Scale, in a Tour with the Tinkers into the Central Parts of Africa.* A work of this na-

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ture affords ample scope for satire; and it has been justly observed of Dr. Thomson, that, as a satyist, though very powerful and poignant, he is not acrimonious. His wit and humour spring from the promptness and brilliancy of a fancy, combining the most ludicrous images; a penetration developing intellectual or moral absurdity, through every disguise, without having for an assistant malignity of heart.

Dr. Thomson, for many years after he came to London, was employed as a reporter of parliamentary debates for the newspapers; and, thoroughly comprehending the subjects, as well as having an excellent memory, he was an admirable reporter. It was often observed to him, that this species of exertion was an excellent preparative for literary effort; to which he was wont to reply, that "it was an employment fit, not for a sinner yet in a state of probation, but for spirits absolutely in a state of condemnation!"—On this subject we perfectly coincide with the opinion of Dr. Thomson; and, though the public may, in many instances, have cause to be dissatisfied with the manner in which the discussions of parliament are detailed in the daily newspapers, it ought rather to be wondered how human talent is capable of recording, with so much force, accuracy, and effect, the lengthened speeches of our senatorial orators. No slight share of corporal, as well as of intellectual health, ought to be the portion of a parliamentary reporter. When an important debate is expected, it is requisite that, to secure a place, he should be in the gallery of the House of Commons by ten o'clock in the morning; and, in some cases, unless he wait for an hour or two preceding

preceding on the staircase, half suffocated in a mob, he will be deprived of the means of fulfilling his duty. Confined, in the close and crowded gallery, from ten o'clock in the forenoon, till perhaps two or three o'clock on the following morning, he has then to repair to the office where the newspaper is published, and there to write for perhaps three or four hours from the notes which he has made of that part of the debate which it is his task to report. Fatigued and exhausted, he has not the possibility of writing at his leisure, or of even correcting what he writes; as, in cases of late debate, the printer's devil tears it from him, scrap by scrap, as fast as he can put pen to paper!—The editor of a newspaper is also frequently censured for inaccuracies, repetitions, and vulgarisms, the blame of which ought by no means to attach to him. In a daily paper there are generally six or seven reporters, and writers of different descriptions, employed under the editor; and on their fidelity he must, in a great measure, depend. Knowledge and literary talent are not the only requisites for a newspaper editor. Capable of the utmost rapidity of composition, he ought to be possessed of the greatest activity of mind; and, according to Dr. Gall's system of craniology, the skull of every editorial wight ought to exhibit most prominently "the organ" for remembering the names and geographical situations of places, their modes of government, moral and political relations, &c. &c. In short, he ought, to be an animated system of geography, and the depository of all historical and juristical knowledge.

Had Dr. Thomson continued to exert his talents in the support of newspaper literature, it is probable that

his

skill in that branch would, at the present moment, be unrivalled. For many years he wrote the Weekly Abridgement of Politics, in the *Whitehall Evening Post*, of which a Mr. Wright, whom we shall presently notice, was the printer. "The proprietors of this paper," says a former biographer of our author, "received themselves, and paid Dr. Thomson, many compliments on the weekly abridgment of politics. Among others who warmly expressed their approbation, was the secretary at war, the Right Honorable Mr. Windham, who had before, as well as Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Fox, and others of the coalition-ministry, expressed a high opinion of the writings of Thomson, under the signature of Ignotus, in the *Political Herald*. But Mr. Windham did not know at that time, and probably never knew, that the abridgments were written by no other than his acquaintance, Dr. Thomson, who had been introduced to him by Dr. Parr, and who, for some years, was honored by Mr. Windham's visits and esteem. The *Whitehall Evening Post* was under the influence of Mr. Pitt. Dr. Thomson, however, wrote just as he thought, and many expostulations, not to say altercations, took place occasionally between Dr. Thomson and the printer and editor, his good friend, Mr. Wright. At length, in the last week in December, 1798, Dr. Thomson, in his weekly abridgment of politics, severely arraigned the indifference of government to the horrors of the Clerkenwell jail, particularly the alledged cruelties of Governor Aris, and bestowed proportionable praise on the active benevolence of Sir Francis Burdett. This was past all endurance. Dr. Thomson was dismissed from a department in which, with the labour of an hour or two

weekly

weekly, he earned fifty-four guineas a year, one guinea per week, and two guineas for annual sketches at the close of the revolving year.——Lest offence should be given to the readers of the *Whitehall*, by praising Sir Francis Burdett at the expence of the ministry, the next *Abridgment of Politics*, Saturday, January 5th, 1799, was prefaced by an intimation that it was by *another hand!*"

Dr. Thomson, through his old class-fellow, Dr. Moncrieff, became acquainted with Dr. Gilbert Stuart, and, through the latter, he contracted an intimacy with Mr. Murray, the bookseller, in Fleet-street.——About the time that the celebrated coalition took place, Dr. Thomson joined with Stuart, in contributing to the *Political Herald*, a periodical work before alluded to. This paper supported Mr. Fox and his party with considerable ability. Dr. Thomson's essays, signed Ignotus, were in high estimation; but, finding that the work was really paid for by the coalition-ministry, and that, while the chief part of the labour devolved upon him, the credit and principal emolument were received by others, he discontinued his efforts; and, after the death of Dr. Stuart, Mr. Godwin succeeded to the editorship.

Through his connection with certain booksellers, Dr. Thomson was much employed in reviews; and, for some time, he wrote the greater part of the political and literary appendices in the English Review, besides innumerable critical articles. During the years 1794, 1795, and 1796, he was the proprietor of that work, and is understood to have written almost the whole of it, in the critical as well as in the political department. Afterwards, when the English Review

Review was incorporated with the Analytical, Dr. Thomson wrote the literary and political appendices.

There is no branch of literature in which an abundance of knowledge, a display of critical acumen, and a solidity of judgment, are entitled to be sought for, more than in the labors of our periodical critics. About two years ago the public were doubtlessly very much amused by the following advertisement, which was extensively circulated in the metropolitan and provincial newspapers.——"To REVIEWERS.---Wanted a good hand, to write in an established review; one who can undertake the departments of *Experimental Philosophy, Poetry, Classical Criticism, Metaphysics, Mechanics, and the Oriental Language.* A person used to a sarcastic and ironical vein of composition will be preferred. To save trouble, the terms are two guineas and a half per printed sheet, quotations included. Concealment is warranted, and a competent guarantee will be given against prosecutions for libels. Address, post-paid, to ARISTARCHUS, at the Bar of the Chapter Coffee-house, Paternoster-row.——N. B. Those books which it is necessary the Reviewer *should see*, are expected *to be returned clean and uncut*, OR THE VALUE WILL BE DEDUCTED."——The well-informed reader immediately perceived that the above was written for some sinister purpose; as it could scarcely be supposed that any one man would step forward and profess himself competent to undertake what the advertisement proposed. It was soon afterwards discovered, that the proposal had been circulated by a certain *dashing* bookseller, who not finding his publications treated so well by some of the reviewers, as he thought them entitled to, had adopted

adopted this mode of endeavouring to cast an odium upon periodical criticism in general.

With respect to the manner in which the regular Reviews are conducted, instead of the different classes of literature being huddled together, and placed under the control of one writer, as indicated by the above advertisement, professional gentlemen in the respective walks of science are engaged, and such books as immediately fall within the extent of their proper pursuits, are entrusted to their inspection. Thus a clashing of opinions is prevented; and, the work, though consisting of many distinct parts, forms a complete and consistent whole.—— In the perusal, however, of these periodical works, reference should always be made to the known principles, political and religious, which a work supports. The Critical Review, the oldest of the censorial tribe, was established by the well-known Dr. Smollet; and was frequently, in its earlier periods, distinguished for violence and personal acrimony. Within these few years, that violence, and that acrimony, arose to an unprecedented height; and, from the palpable partiality of the work, and the jacobinical principles which it inculcated, it became exceedingly obnoxious to moderate men of every persuasion. It has recently undergone several changes, and has been scarcely a sufficient time in the hands of the present proprietors to warrant us in passing an opinion on its merit. The Monthly Review, we believe, has ever since its commencement been in the dissenting and whig interest; but, for depth of erudition, and correct and elegant taste, it has no equal; and, where the theological or political tenets of an author do not happen to clash with those of the reviewers,

viewer, he has but little to fear from injustice.—The British Critic has, from its first publication, distinguished itself by a strenuous adherence to existing establishments, both in church and state; but, as a censor over works of taste, its pretensions rank not very high. The Antijacobin Review, avowedly hostile to every heterodox and jacobinical innovation, started as the determined supporter of high-church and tory principles; and it will not be going too far to say, that the *Pursuits of Literature*, the *Antijacobin Examiner*, and the *Antijacobin Review*, are three works which have tended more effectually to check the progress of infidelity and republicanism, than any others that have been published within the last fifty years. A greater display of theological, political, and historical knowledge presents itself in the Antijacobin Review, than in any of its critical contemporaries; and, when the principles of a candidate for literary fame are not inimical to those of the established church or government, he may rest assured of candid treatment from this periodical censor.—The English Review, and the Analytical Review, in which Dr. Thomson was concerned, have for some time "ceased to exist;" and they are generally understood to have been *written down* by the Antijacobin. It must be admitted, however, that if every writer who adopts the profession of a reviewer were as well qualified to fill the critical chair as Dr. Thomson, reviewers would deservedly be holden in much higher estimation than they are at present.

Dr. Thomson has never distinguished himself by the violence of his political attachments; yet, that he possesses a most extensive share of political knowledge

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no one will deny. In a letter, which he wrote to Dr. Parr, in the year 1792, he very happily exposed the errors of modern revolutionists. In illustrating the position, that gradual, not rapid changes in systems affecting the welfare of mankind, are most suitable to the human character, he happily observes :—" It does not seem to be part of the wise statesman to create, so much as to improve governments; as there are various seeds profusely scattered over the external face of nature, so there are various sources of civil and political societies; and, as the husbandman only pretends to CULTIVATE, not to *create*, the seeds of vegetables, so in like manner it is for the interest of human societies, that statesmen, instead of forming at once the very stamina or essence of new governments, by a process sudden and violent, should make the most of the old in the mean time, and assimilate them, according to the general economy of nature, by slow degrees, to the most approved forms that ever metaphysical policy can devise. It has been found on trial, and that too by the ablest men, that it is almost as difficult for the legislator to form *a priori*, and without feeling his way by means of the thread of experience, a happy constitution of government, as it would be absurd for a gardener or husbandman to attempt, by a mixture of natural elements, to form an apple or an acorn. As the nature of a seed is best discovered by its developement into an herb, shrub, or tree, so the principles of government are best understood when they are contemplated in their actions, effect, and full expansion. In the moral as well as in the natural world, the thing that has been is that which shall be, and there is no new thing under the sun."

Very

Very numerous are the works which Dr. Thomson has produced, not only in his own name, but in the names of other men. The life of the old Highland sergeant Macleod, which was extremely productive to its subject, properly claims Dr. Thomson as its author. For some years he wrote the historical part of one of the continuations of Dodsley's Annual Register. From a mass of materials, furnished by Mr. Philip Francis to a Mr. W. Mackintosh, and by Mr. Mackintosh, through Mr. Dempster, to Dr. Thomson, the latter composed, about the year 1781, or 1782, a book of *Travels in Europe, Asia, and Africa.* He also produced Buchanan's *Travels in the Hebrides*, from materials supplied by John Lane Macgregor; and *Letters from Scandinavia*, from documents with which he was furnished by his private and literary friends. He assisted Captain Stedman in composing his *History of the American War;* is the author of the *Continuation of Dr. Goldsmith's History of Greece, from Alexander the Great to the Sacking of Constantinople by the Turks;* and is the translator of Acerbi's *Travels to the North Cape.*—One of the most elaborate and highly-finished compositions of Dr. Thomson is the preface, or introduction to the history of the trial of Warren Hastings, Esq. published in 1796, by the late Mr. Thomas Wright, whom we have already mentioned. That gentleman, when he wanted to have any thing *nicely done*, as he said, was wont to apply to Dr. Thomson, with whom he was long and intimately acquainted, though not without many cautions to *read over what he should write*, and to do it in his best manner.—Dr. Thomson had, during the whole of Mr. Hastings's long-protracted trial, given his warmest support to that gen-

 tleman,

tleman, solely from a belief of his innocence and honour. He was once waited on by Major Scott, the governor's confidential friend and agent, with an offer to introduce him to Mr. Hastings, who had expressed himself much gratified by the handsome manner in which, in various publications, he had seen his name mentioned by Dr. Thomson. That gentleman, however, declined the proffered interview; until the trial should be decided, in order that he might still say, with truth, that he had never seen or communicated with Mr. Hastings. A few weeks, however, after the trial, the wished for interview took place; and, proving reciprocally satisfactory to the parties, it was the means of establishing a lasting acquaintance between them.

The last work to which we recollect seeing Dr. Thomson's name, was a volume of *Military Memoirs*, consisting of the details of battles, sieges, &c. in different periods of history. He has made, we understand, a vast collection of notes and memoranda, for a work to be entitled *A History of Metaphysics, with an Estimate of the Results of Metaphysical Enquiries. To which is subjoined, a brief Treatise on the Process of the Mind in the Act of Reminiscence*; but, what progress he has made towards the completion of the performance we know not.

Dr. Thomson's attainments are not confined to literature. He is passionately fond of music; and, that he possesses considerable taste in that delightful science, is evident from the following anecdote.—In one of his excursions through the Highlands of Perthshire with Mr. Fowler, of the Treasury, mentioned in a preceding

preceding part of this memoir, the travellers stopped at the house of a miller in Glen Cooaigh, near Strath-Brandt. When they went in, they heard the most affecting notes in the inner part of the house, though for want of windows in that part, nobody was to be seen. It was a young widow, whose husband had been dead but a fortnight, singing her child to sleep. A servant girl, on the entrance of the strangers, would have hastened to call her mistress, but both Mr. Thomson and Mr. Fowler agreed not by any means to interrupt her song. It was an original lullaby, consisting of a few plaintive words, but a greater variety of plaintive notes; the whole expressive of love for her departed husband, tenderness to her babe, and anxiety about the future fate or destiny of both. When the child fell asleep, and the song was over, the fair mourner appeared, and, by her great beauty and extreme modesty, heightened the impressions before made in her favour on Thomson and his companion. She was so modest and diffident, that she could not be persuaded to give any other specimen of her vocal, musical, and almost poetical powers; nor, indeed, in such circumstances of sorrow, did the travellers urge it. Dr. Thomson, on his return to Duplin, set the notes of the Highland shepherdess to music, with some improvements; and it is considered as one of the most plaintive, tender, and affecting melodies that ever was composed.

Dr. Thomson, who, throughout his life, has been an admirer of the fair sex, had the good fortune to marry a lady of great beauty, and of very respectable literary talents, which she has displayed in the com-

composition of various novels, particularly one entitled, *The Labyrinths of Life*. By this lady the doctor has two sons and a daughter, all of whom are either settled in life, or in a way of being eligibly provided for.

The corporal strength of Dr. Thomson is extremely great, and, as he possesses the most intrepid courage, he has frequently exercised it in seizing pick-pockets, overawing bullies, and severely beating street-disturbers of the public peace. He is somewhat under the middle size, with very broad shoulders, a capacious chest, and very strong limbs. His countenance is highly expressive of intelligence, boldness, sensibility, and benevolence; and, when earnestly engaged in conversation, his eyes have astonishing brilliancy and force.

SIR

Addington
Buonaparte

SIR FRANCIS BURDETT.

If a long and respectable ancestry be the source of gratification to a public character, Sir Francis Burdett may consider himself as exceedingly fortunate. Hugh de Burdett, who may be regarded as the origin of the family in England, came into this country with William the Conqueror, in the year 1066; and his son, William Burdett, Lord of Louseby, in Leicestershire, distinguished himself in the holy wars. It is recorded of this William, that, being a devout man, he made a journey to the Holy Land, in order to subdue the infidels; and that, in his absence, his steward attempted the chastity of his lady, who resisted him with scorn. On his return to England, the steward went to meet him, and, to cover his own crimes, complained of the lady's looseness of demeanor with others, which so enraged her husband, that when she approached to receive him with joyful embraces, he mortally stabbed her. To expiate this murder, he afterwards founded the priory at Aucote in Warwickshire; where, for many generations, the family continued to hold large possessions.—Thomas Burdett, Esq. another of the present baronet's ancestors, was in commission for conserving the peace, from the 7th to the 14th of Edward

Edward IV.; but in 1477, he incurred the king's displeasure for his affection to the Duke of Clarence. So strict were the eyes and ears of his enemies, that an advantage was soon taken to deprive him of his life; for hearing that the king had killed a white buck in his park at Arrow, which he set much store by, he passionately wished the horns in the belly of him who moved the king so to do; for which words he was arraigned and convicted of high treason, upon inference of a mischievous meaning to the king himself, and was accordingly beheaded.

Thomas Burdett, the eighteenth in descent from Hugh, who came over with William the Conqueror, was advanced to the dignity of a baronet, in the year 1618. This gentleman, who was much celebrated for his hospitality and benevolence, afforded an agreeable sanctuary, at Bramcote, to the famous Archbishop Sheldon, during the exile of Charles II. He married Jane, daughter and heiress of William Fraunceys, of Foremark, in Derbyshire, Esq. which seat has, since that time, been the chief residence of the family. Sir Thomas built and endowed, at his own private cost, the church of Foremark, which was consecrated in the year 1672, and called St. Saviour's.

Sir Robert, the fourth baronet, grandfather to the present Sir Francis, succeeded to the title and estate in the year 1739, and was many years member of parliament for Tamworth. He married Elizabeth, the only daughter of Sir Charles Sedley, Bart. of Nuthall, in the county of Nottingham, by whom he had issue, Robert Thomas Sedley, who died at the age of four years; Elizabeth, wife of Francis Munday, Esq.; Francis; John, who died at the age of twenty; and

Frances,

Frances.—Francis, the second son of Sir Robert, died before his father, in 1794, having married Eleanor, daughter of William Jones, of Ramsbury manor, Wiltshire. Esq. By this lady he had issue, Robert, who died young; Sedley, who died unmarried; Francis the present baronet; and Elizabeth, who married, in 1801, James. brother of Sir William Langhorne, Bart. Sedley, the second son of Francis, was unfortunately drowned in the Rhine, with George Samuel, the late Viscount Montague. They were uncommonly anxious to pass the famous water-fall of Schaffhausen, which had hitherto been unattempted. The magistrates of the districts having heard of this resolution, and knowing that inevitable destruction would be the consequence of such an attempt, had ordered guards to be placed for the purpose of preventing the execution of it. Such, however, was the force of their curiosity, that they found means to elude every precaution. Having provided themselves with a small flat-bottomed punt, as they were about to step into it, Lord Montague's servant stopped short, and as it were instinctively, seized his master by the collar, declaring that for the moment he should forget the respect of the servant in the duty of the man. His lordship, however, extricated himself at the expence of part of his collar and neckcloth, and pushed off immediately with his companion. They got over the first fall in safety, and began to shout and wave their handkerchiefs, in token of good success. They then pushed down the second fall, by far more dangerous than the first; from which time they were never heard of. It is supposed that the boat, hurried on by the violence of the cataract, jammed them between two rocks.

Sir

Sir Robert's first wife died in 1747, and he married a second in 1753, Lady Caroline Manners, widow of Sir Henry Harpur, Bart. and daughter of John Duke of Rutland; but by this marriage he had no children. He died on the 22d of February, 1797, and was succeeded by his grandson, the present baronet.

Sir Francis, the immediate subject of this memoir, was educated at Westminster school; and after having spent some time at the university, he made a tour of the continent about the year 1790. At an early period of the late revolution he was at Paris, and remained there a considerable time. It is said, however, that he regarded the important and rapidly changing events of that epoch, as they would strike the eye of an uninterested spectator, rather than with the attention of a politician. We must confess, that we do not feel ourselves disposed to rely upon the veracity of this assertion. Putting politics out of the question, we cannot conceive how it could be possible for any person, particularly for a *young* man, of an *ardent* temperament, to witness the sanguinary scenes of the French revolution as an *uninterested spectator*. The conduct of Mr. Sheares, who was afterwards executed in Dublin, during the Irish rebellion, was much more natural. "On the trial of the king," says Redhead Yorke, in his recently-published *Letters from France*, "he sat very near me, and was so extremely affected that he shed tears, observing at the same time, that the French nation would dishonour their name, and the cause of freedom, if they did not restore him his liberty, and leave the question of monarchy or republic to the fair decision of the people. Some days after, we went, together with several other

other gentlemen now in England, to spend a day at Versailles. As we were contemplating with delight the beautiful scenery of the English garden, at Petit Trianon, which had been laid out according to the directions of the late queen, he went to the top of the Look-out, fell on one knee, and exclaimed—' By Heaven! I'll thrust this (drawing a dirk from his bosom) into the heart of the man who shall dare to propose the least injury to Marie Antoinette!'—His brother, who was of a more cool and less enthusiastic temper, immediately observed—' You had better set off post to Paris, and take her out of the Temple.'"

It is admitted, however, that Sir Francis *sometimes attended* the National Assembly, and the clubs that were distinguished at Paris; *but it is equally certain*, adds a contemporary writer, that *he felt little or no interest in the topics of discussion that agitated the breasts of the contending parties.* Of the latter part of this sentence, we do not believe one syllable; for Sir Francis, throughout the whole of his public career, has given no indication of such constitutional coldness.

We are not acquainted with the exact period of his return from the continent; but, in 1793, he formed a matrimonial alliance with Miss Sophia Coutts, the daughter of Thomas Coutts, Esq. banker, in Westminster, and sister to the late Countess Dowager of Guilford, and the Marchioness of Bute, by whom he has had several children.

In 1796, through the interest of the Duke of Newcastle, he was returned a member of parliament for Boroughbridge, in Yorkshire. From that period, during the whole of the time that he occupied a seat in the British House of Commons, Sir Francis was in

his

his place on all occasions, and frequently bore the brunt of ministerial eloquence almost alone. One of the first acts of his political life, was an open, avowed, and unreserved declaration of his sentiments, as a partizan for reform in the Commons House of Parliament. At one of the most numerous meetings ever holden in London, he readily took the chair, and, in a very animated speech, declared his opinion on this subject, and his resolution to pursue it by every legal means. He had not long been a member of parliament, before he enlisted under the banners of the most determined oppositionists; and on almost every question of the late war, he joined issue with the ministers, attempted to expose the weakness of their measures, the futility of their efforts to subjugate France, and the disgrace which must inevitably attend the prosecution of their schemes. On the 3d of January, 1798, he delivered a speech in the House, on the assessed taxes, which was considered by his admirers as replete with sound reasoning. At all events, it displayed, in a very energetic manner, his inveterate opposition to the measures of that day. After having enumerated the methods, by which he asserted, that the money raised from the people was squandered away, he observed:—"It is not on account of the heavy pressure which this mode of raising supplies must occasion: it is not on account of the unjust and tyrannical principle of the bill, now before you: it is not on account of the waste and extravagance of government, enormous as it is, that I now raise my voice against the granting the supplies demanded by the minister: it is because I *never will*, at any time, or under any circumstances, become an accomplice in the guilt

 of

of supporting a system, which, if it can be supported, and is to be persisted in, must eventually destroy the freedom of the country." What might be the opinion of Sir Francis on the *present* measures, brought forward by men, some of whom were his dear and bosom friends, we have not the means of ascertaining; yet, we should conceive, it must appear strange to him, to see the very men, who had been the loudest and the most violent in their oppositions to the measures of the late Mr. Pitt, treading precisely in that great man's footsteps! Must it not appear strange, that the very men, who were at a loss for terms sufficiently opprobrious with which to assail the original framers of the income tax, should now render that tax, misnomered a PROPERTY tax, more oppressive than ever?— The late changes in administration have certainly done much towards unveiling the English political character. They have shewn, indeed, that there are such things as wolves in sheep's clothing.

In the month of June, 1798, a bill was brought into parliament for regulating the publication of newspapers, &c. which was opposed by the leading members of opposition as a dangerous innovation. This afforded Sir Francis an opportunity of standing forward as an advocate for the freedom of the press. A good and free government, he said, had nothing to apprehend and every thing to hope from the liberty of the press. But despotism courted shade and obscurity; it dreaded the scrutinizing eye of liberty; and if an arbitrary-disposed prince, supported by an unprincipled minister, and backed by a corrupt parliament, were to cast about for means to secure such a triple tyranny, no means better could be devised than the bill

bill on the table. The present ministers endeavoured to frighten us into measures, holding out the dread of a revolution, whilst themselves were the greatest and the only revolutionists from whom we had suffered much, and had still more to expect. They had already completed a great revolution, not in favour of but against liberty. He reminded the House of the unconstitutional measures daily introduced, one of which he could not forbear mentioning; the infamous practice, by which the whole law of imprisonment was changed, of sending men to those bastiles, which disgrace the country; those private prisons, where, under pretence of regulations, punishments were inflicted upon men as illegal as they were cruel. And what were those regulations so called? To keep men in dismal heart-sickening solitude, to feed them on bread and water, and that scanty too; to sentence them to hard labour, exacted by stripes, at the will perhaps of a merciless jailor. If this were not tyranny, it was impossible to define the term. It was natural for such a government to complain of the press; it was part of that revolution which had been brought about, and which the present bill would secure; the seeds of which had long been sown, and the effects had been foreseen by the wise Lord Chatham, who had warned the country of the danger and magnitude of the evil. But ministerial corruption blinded the nation then as it did now; and there was reason to fear it would end, as that great statesman foretold, in the subversion of our old, free constitution, and the establishment of a German government.

From this period may be dated the commencement of Sir Francis Burdett's persevering opposition to the system

system of confinement adopted in the Cold Bath Fields' Prison. Convinced, it is presumed, that the treatment of prisoners in that place was accompanied by a severity, which neither humanity nor policy could justify, he repeatedly called the attention of parliament to the subject. In the debate, on renewing the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, he stated, that a number of persons were brought up to town from Manchester, loaded with irons, and thrown into the house of correction, in rooms unprepared for their reception; and on the next day, when exhausted with fatigue, with hands and legs swollen, and severely galled with the weight and friction of the fetters, they were sent before the privy council, to be examined on charges of which they were ignorant, and, as it afterwards appeared, completely innocent. Sir Francis asked, whether this was a fit and proper treatment for persons apprehended on suspicion only, whose accusers were probably men of doubtful or infamous character; and whether, in that situation, they were likely to be possessed of that calm and steady recollection of mind necessary to stand before so august a body as the privy council. Yet, he said, while the Habeas Corpus act was suspended, there was no redress for men, innocent men, however ill they were treated.—It was, indeed, a just subject of regret, that the Cold Bath Fields' Prison should ever have been appropriated to such uses. This prison was intended *exclusively* for a house of *correction*; and, as such, had been built and fitted up on a plan suited to the peculiar system of imprisonment recommended by Mr. Howard. The Prison Committee were so much dissatisfied with the circumstance, that they stated to the

the court of session, in May, 1798, "that the confinement of the mutineers in the house of correction, was attended with very great inconvenience; that their conduct was desperate and refractory in the extreme; and that the practice of sending state-prisoners, previous to their trial, to the house of correction, was found to be very detrimental, and to break in upon the system established for the management of the prison." Convinced of the justice of what the Prison Committee had stated, the magistrates of the Court of Session caused a memorial on the subject to be drawn up, and presented to the Duke of Portland, then one of his majesty's secretaries of state.

In the month of December following Sir Francis moved for a list of the names of the different persons who had been taken up under the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act. This motion was opposed by Mr. Pitt, and negatived. Shortly afterwards, however, during the absence of Sir Francis in the country, a committee was appointed by parliament to enquire into the state of the prison; a sufficient proof, that the minister had no wish to conceal, or to sanction abuses, if they were known to exist.

Among the particular cases which Sir Francis had selected for animadversion, were the late Colonel Despard, and a woman of the name of Mary Rich, who was stated to have been restricted to bread and water for her subsistence, and to have undergone an unusually rigorous confinement. It was proved, however, by the committee, from this woman's own confession, that she *had not been confined to bread and water*; but that she had actually *lived better, during her confinement*, than she had been accustomed to live at home.

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The Rev. Mr. Owen, who had officiated as chaplain to the prison for several months, solemnly declared, "that he never heard an oath from the turnkey, the governor, or any of the prisoners; that there was every appearance of civil and kind treatment; and that he could give many instances of the humanity of the governor, such as making little presents to poor women that were discharged, and speaking to all the prisoners always in a kind tone of voice." The Rev. Mr. Evans, who succeeded Mr. Owen as chaplain, affirmed, "that he had never heard the governor use an improper word to the prisoners; that one of the turnkeys, who had used improper expressions, was discharged; and that he never saw the governors or turnkeys strike any of the prisoners." The committee, in their report to the House of Commons, were decidedly favourable to the governor. "*With regard to Mr. Aris's general character for humanity amongst the prisoners in his custody*," say they, "*it is unimpeached*;" that "his deviations have been uniformly on the side of indulgence to his prisoners;" and that "the declarations of those magistrates who have attended our sittings, the journals of the visiting justices, and the members of the committee of inspection and expenditure, testify a general approbation of Mr. Aris's service."

Several irregularities were found in the interior management of the prison; but those irregularities were not of the most serious nature, and the whole tenor of the report, which concluded in the following manner, was exceedingly favourable:—

"Your committee have peculiar satisfaction in being able to state to the House the result of their enquiries

quiries, as a full and direct refutation of the unfounded statements, and absurd and wicked reports, which have been industriously circulated with respect to the prison and its internal management; and upon the whole, your committee have come to the following resolutions:—

"Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, that the prison in Cold Bath Fields is erected in a dry, airy situation, and is well adapted for the purposes of its institution, as a house of correction, as well as for those of close and separate confinement and safe custody.

"Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, that the attention of the magistrates to the general management of the prison, has been exemplary and meritorious."

Sir Francis, by the mode of conduct which he adopted, relative to this prison, rendered himself so exceedingly obnoxious to the administration of the day---so much so, that the Duke of Portland sent a circular letter to the different jailors throughout the kingdom, charging them, on no pretence whatever, to admit Sir Francis Burdett within the limits of their jurisdiction. Another circumstance, which also gave great offence to the party in opposition to Sir Francis, was the exaggerated eulogiums that he pronounced on Mr. O'Conner, who was charged with high treason: he believed him, he said, to be as incapable of that, or any other crime, as any man in this country; that he knew him to entertain those generous and noble affections which lead men to do good, wherever they can, to every individual, and to their country; who was endowed by nature, and cultivated by art, with all the

the qualifications which constitute the character of true greatness. Unfortunately for the credit of Sir Francis, this *great and good man* had, at that time, deliberately entered into a foul conspiracy against his country, and had united with France to procure the invasion of Ireland.

Sir Francis, in his attacks on the Cold Bath Fields' Prison, was constantly opposed in the House of Commons by Mr. Mainwaring, the member for the county of Middlesex. These gentlemen continually joined issue on the most important and interesting topics; and, by his friends, Sir Francis had been frequently mentioned as a proper person to oppose the pretensions of Mr. Mainwaring to represent any longer that great and respectable county. His own intentions, it is said, were to decline a seat, until the 26th of June, (1802), three days before the dissolution of parliament, when the following letter was addressed to him:

"Sir,

"Having heard from various quarters, of an intention in many freeholders to offer you their votes at the general election, as a fit person to represent the county of Middlesex in the next parliament, we are anxious to know whether, in such event, you will stand forward, in compliance with their wishes. Our own votes, as well as our exertions among our friends, depend on your answer; for assure yourself, we feel as you feel, with respect to the ministers and their measures.

"As Englishmen, we concur in your abhorrence of the use and management of such a prison, as that in Cold Bath Fields. As freeholders, we desire an occasion

sion to express the sentiments we entertain of your manly opposition to the establishment in Middlesex.

"In any case, we trust a majority of our fellow-freeholders will agree with us, that Sir Francis Burdett is more worthy than Mr. Mainwaring to represent the interest, deliver the same, and support the rights of the first county in England.

"We remain, Sir,

"Your obedient servants,

"W. Tooke,

"Mich. Pearson.

"*To Sir Francis Burdett, Bart.*"

To the above, Sir Francis returned the following answer:—

"Gentlemen,

"I will freely acknowledge to you, that I have for some time past, relinquished all thoughts of a seat in parliament, and have consequently declined very many overtures for that purpose. If the people of England are pleased and contented with what has passed, with their present situation, and with the terrible changes which have been made in the laws, constitution, and manner of governing this country, let statues be erected in each county through the land, to Lord Liverpool, Mr. Pitt, and Mr. Dundas, to whom principally they are indebted for these blessings; I shall not desire to overturn them, but will remove from such odious and disgraceful objects, confessing myself not fit for the society of such a nation.

"Yet, though disgusted, I do not despair; I think our country may yet be saved; but by one means

only: by a fair representation of the people in parliament. By that alone can we possibly obtain the restoration of the invaluable rights which have been ravished from us, or the security of what little good remains.

If the County of Middlesex, which from circumstances, is likely to be more free, informed, and independant, than any other county in England, shall be pleased, upon this principle (and I wish for no support upon any other principle, holding all palliations nugatory and destructive) if upon this principle the County of Middlesex shall be pleased to intrust in my hands a portion of their present small and inadequate share of representation, I will cheerfully and zealously devote myself, my life, and my fortune, to their service.

"I am, Gentlemen,
"Your obedient humble servant,
"FRANCIS BURDETT,

"*No.* 78, *Piccadilly,*
June 26, 1802."

Such declamatory—and we may be permitted to say, *inflammatory*—trash, as the preceding, was admirably calculated to impress the confused intellects, and ill-regulated feelings of the rabble, to whom, in reality, it was addressed. Among the disgraceful artifices which were resorted to, in the succeeding election, by the friends of Sir Francis, the following advertisement, or placard, is particularly worthy of notice:—

BASTILLE.

"BASTILLE.

"ARIS, the Governor.

"MAINWARING, the Magistrate.

"THE FREEHOLDERS OF

"THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

"Are requested to peruse the following extract from the Report of the Commissioners appointed by the King, at the request of the House of Commons, to inspect the state of the above-mentioned prison:

"*We remark an accumulation of acts in defiance of the laws, committed under the eye of the magistrates visiting the prison; acts, which involve the* WHOLE ADMINISTRATION *of the prison in criminality.*"

To unmask an artifice of so mischievous a nature is quite proper. The above passage, *purporting to be an extract from the report of the commissioners,* may be found in the 50th page of the report, and has a reference to the conduct of the *cook* of the house of correction. The passage, however, had it been faithfully quoted, would, with its context, have stood as follows:—"We heard no complaint from the prisoners against this officer, either in his capacity as cook, or in his trade as sutler, *but we remark* in the latter employ, as combined with the former, an accumulation of acts in defiance of the laws *quoted in the Appendix* (i. e. the laws of the prison) *committed under the eye of the magistrates visiting the prison; acts which involve the whole administration of the prison in criminality;* the surgeon, by his permission to admit liquors, which are sold for other than medical purposes, and without any

any order in writing, or name of the person for whose health he thinks them necessary; the cook, in selling the several liquors, and supplying the prisoners with articles of provision; and the governor, by knowingly permitting these acts to be done."—Let the reader decide, whether the extract, as it ought to have been printed, conveys in any degree the impression made by that actually printed in the advertisement. The *prisoners*, it appears, *made no complaints against the cook*, and the deviation from the laws, which constituted the *criminality in the administration of the prison*, are still, it is to be observed, on the *side of indulgence to the prisoners*. Had the *whole truth* been told, however, it would not have answered the purposes of those who drew up the advertisement.

Amongst others who distinguished themselves at this election, in support of Sir Francis Burdett, were Lord William Russell, Mr. Fox, John Gale Jones, Mr. Frost, and Mr. Fergusson. The *names* of the latter gentlemen require no *illustration*.

The popular clamour which had been excited against Mr. Mainwaring, for his support and vindication of Mr. Aris, and the house of correction, operated strongly in favour of Sir Francis "The election of Brentford," says a writer on the subject, "exhibited in genuine purity a system of terrorism; the indignities heaped upon Mr. Mainwaring, the insults offered to those who voted for him, the unchecked clamors and execrations of the populace, are terrifying proofs of what may be effected by misrepresentations, whilst they stamp, with indelible disgrace, the cause which owes so much of its success to the artifices which excited them."

The

The 12th of July was the day appointed for the election; and, on the shew of hands, the sheriff declared the sense of the electors to be in favour of Mr. Byng and Sir Francis Burdett. Mr. Mainwaring, however, demanded a poll; and had on the first day a majority of nearly 400 voters. At the end of the eleventh day, Mr. Mainwaring's majority was 503; but, in the three next days, Sir Francis advanced rapidly upon his opponent, and, on the evening of the fourteenth day, the majority against him was but fourteen. On the last day, the poll had been opened but a short time before the *popular* candidate obtained a majority over Mr. Mainwaring; and, at the final close, he had a majority of 271 votes. Sir Francis seems to have been exceedingly elated by this success; as, in his subsequent address to the freeholders of Middlesex, he says: —"Gentlemen, for having done my duty in my place in parliament, against the barbarous and cruel system of secret close imprisonment, I was stigmatized by the lord lieutenant of the county; and in violation of the privileges of parliament, and of all law and decency, I was proclaimed by him throughout the land, as a person not fit to be trusted to visit, or perform an office of humanity, to any wretched victim within the accursed walls. Permit me to say, it belonged to the same county to wipe away the undeserved stigma: *and you have done it nobly.*"

The triumph of the baronet was but of short duration: he indeed retained his seat for two winters; but, petitions, and counter-petitions, having been presented to the House of Commons, that august body appointed a committee to investigate the merits of the election, which committee at length reported, that

Sir

Sir Francis Burdett was not duly elected, and that Mr. Mainwaring was disqualified to sit, by the operation of the Treating Act; the election was consequently declared void.

Sir Francis, not deterred by his failure, determined on standing another contest for Middlesex; which accordingly took place between him and Mr. George Bolton Mainwaring, the son of the former opposing candidate. Having made some progress in canvassing the county, he published the following address

"*To the Independent Freeholders of the County of "Middlesex.*

"GENTLEMEN,

"The great and disinterested encouragement which I have already experienced in my canvass, at once demands my grateful acknowledgment, and inspires me with confidence of success. To insure this, however, your exertions must be unremitted, and the generous support which you have hitherto given me, should be manifested by an early appearance in my favour. Among the successful events of the late scrutiny, I esteemed it the chief, that a great number of persons were disqualified, who, without any just claim to vote, had been encroaching on your rights. These were the prebendaries of Westmister, with a long train of servants and pensioners, and all the officers and placemen of the Courts of Chancery, King's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer. By the decision of the committee, above 400 voters of this description were disqualified. The removal of these men, (the dependants of the minister, and uniformly subservient to his mandates)

mandates) gives you a decided majority in the county. Let me request you will exert yourselves as becomes you, to maintain it, and you will defeat an interested opposition, which is raised only by contractors, placemen, and others still more unworthy, to exercise the franchise of electors.

Of those who are contented that the minister should squander public money without controul or enquiry, that English prisons should be made dens of oppression and torture, that the lives of their fellow-subjects should be wickedly aimed at under colour of justice. —Of such men I cannot be a fit representative; let them carry their votes and their subscriptions to my opponent. He may tread in the steps of his father, and will not blush to receive their support. My better reliance is on the virtue and integrity of those who behold with detestation the progress and consequences of corruption, and who consider each vote that is given, (whether by the elector or the member) not as the instrument of private advantage, but as the discharge of a private trust.

"I am, Gentlemen,

"Your devoted humble servant,

"FRANCIS BURDETT."

"*Piccadilly, June* 19, 1804."

This called forth a very severe counter-address, from "*A Middlesex Freeholder*," which, among other forcible and striking passages, contained the following:—"By affirming that 'English prisons are dens of oppression and torture,' and that the *lives of our fellow-subjects are wickedly aimed at under colour of justice*, he at once

once libels his country, and condemns himself. If he really believes this assertion, (most *infamously* false as he is) to be true, why did he not make it the subject of a specific motion in the House of Commons, during the two years which he was allowed to sit there? Why not institute a serious and solemn enquiry into facts? Why not devote some small portion of his wealth to the prosecution and punishment of such atrocious offenders? Why not specify the instances of oppression and of torture? Why not explicitly declare whose lives have been wickedly attacked under the colour of justice? Why not propose some law to remedy the evils of which he complains? An honest man would not prefer such charges as these without having the most satisfactory proofs of their justice, and an honest man in possession of such proofs would not satisfy himself with the bare statements of the facts in a public advertisement."

Sir Francis, instead of replying specifically to the charges contained in this and various other papers, contented himself with counter-assertions, without proofs, and with general declamations against *calumny*. On the silence which he preserved with respect to the charges which were brought against him, a writer, who took the signature of "*An Attentive Observer*," says:—"It is deserving of notice, that the charges exhibited against Sir Francis Burdett appeared in the form seldom assumed by calumny, of distinct and specific allegations, respecting matters of fact. Such were the charges—that he continued his intimacy with Despard almost to the very moment when he was apprehended, and was even seen walking with him arm-in-arm, the very day preceding that event; that not long

long before the apprehension of O'Connor, the lease of a country-house * was purchased for him by Sir Francis; that, when that traitor was arrested, Sir Francis and his friend, Colonel Bosville, offered to be bail for him in any sum: that, before the conviction of the same traitor, his property was assigned to Sir Francis for the purpose of defrauding the crown of its rights: that a chaise of a private construction, containing private pockets for the purpose of secreting papers, and which was in the possession of O'Connor when he was apprehended, had been made by the order of Sir Francis, who, after some hesitation, thought it prudent to pay the coachmaker's demand for the same: and, that at a public meeting he uttered those expressions respecting the sailors and volunteers, which induced the freeholders of Middlesex to consider him an improper man to present their address to the throne. The repetition of all this, though disgusting is useful, as it serves to shew that what Sir Francis called calumnies, were not vague assertions, which, by their generality avoided an enquiry, but precise statements of specific transactions which, by their circumstantiality, invited the accuser to put the accused upon the proof. The entire omission of Sir Francis to deny such charges, affords full confirmation of their truth. Considering, indeed, the known parts of Sir Francis Burdett's character, the supporters of Mr. Mainwaring's interest must have been out of their senses if they had risked their cause by resorting to calumny, or even to exaggeration. Insincerity is, doubtless, a heinous crime, and, indeed, the germ of

* Elstree.

every

every vice; but when nothing can be more favourable to success than the *truth*, insincerity must denote a disordered head, as well as a depraved disposition."

The election continued with great vehemence on both sides. On the two first days Sir Francis had a majority; the first day 83, the second 45; but, on the third, Mr. Mainwaring obtained a majority of one. The latter candidate continued to hold a majority, which, on the fourteenth day, was 86. At the close of the poll, at three o'clock in the afternoon of the fifteenth day, a board announced to the multitude, that Sir Francis Burdett had a majority of 10; but this notice proved to be premature and erroneous. The fact was, that, towards the afternoon of each day's poll, a number of the tendered votes were *deferred* by the sheriffs for consideration; and it is said that the last three hours of the poll produced between 40 and 50 of these deferred votes. After the final close, the sheriffs, according to promise, proceeded to examine and determine upon such votes as had been actually tendered, and put upon the books. Nineteen of them were decided on; of which, ten were put upon the poll for Sir Francis, and four for Mr. Mainwaring; after which the sheriffs declared the numbers to be—for Sir Francis Burdett, 2833—for Mr. Mainwaring, 2832—leaving a majority of one in favour of Sir Francis. The proceedings were then adjourned to the following morning, when a requisition was presented to the sheriffs, signed by Mr. Mainwaring, Sir William Gibbons, Mr. Rae, Mr. Mellish, and Mr. John Bowles, demanding that they should declare the numbers, as they stood on the poll at three o'clock on the preceding day, with-

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out regarding the *deferrred* votes, and should make their return accordingly. Mr. Pigott, as counsel for Mr. Mainwaring, contended that the sheriffs had no discretion, and that nothing could be added to the poll after the hour of three, on the fifteenth day. This was opposed by Sir Francis Burdett's counsel; and, after a long argument, all the parties were ordered to retire from the sheriff's box, leaving the sheriffs and their assessor to deliberate on the requisition. The result was, that, notwithstanding the protest of Sir Francis Burdett's counsel, the under-sheriff, in the presence and in the name of the sheriffs on the hustings, declared the numbers to be, at the close of the poll at three o'clock on the fifteenth day—for Sir Francis Burdett, 2823—for Mr. Mainwaring, 2828—giving a majority of five to Mr. Mainwaring; who was accordingly declared to be duly elected to serve in parliament as knight of the shire for the county of Middlesex.

So enraged were the friends of Sir Francis at this decision, that, in the ensuing week, a meeting was holden, at which a resolution was passed, to assert, at their own expence, the sacred rights of the elective franchise. A subscription to this end was commenced, and the sum of 4000l. subscribed on the spot.

A petition on the part of Sir Francis, complaining of an undue return, was presented by certain of the electors of the county of Middlesex, to the House of Commons, and a committee was appointed to try the merits of the election. In March, 1805, the committee resolved--That George Bolton Mainwaring, Esq. was n ot duly returned, and that Sir Francis Burdett, Bart.

Bart. ought to be returned. This resolution of the committee was agreed to by the House of Commons, and the clerk of the crown amended the return accordingly.---A petition was afterwards presented from Mr. Mainwaring, Mr. Henry Thornton, Sir William Curtis, Mr. William Mellish, and other freeholders of the county, charging Sir Francis Burdett and his agents with bribery, corruption, and subornation of perjury, whereby Sir Francis Burdett obtained a colourable majority of one, and praying that the return of the said Sir Francis Burdett be rendered null and void. A committee was again appointed; which, on the 8th of February, 1806, came to the resolutions---That Sir F. Burdett, Bart. was not duly elected, and ought not to have been returned.---That G. B. Mainwaring, Esq. was duly elected, and ought to have been returned.---That the petition of the said G. B. Mainwaring, Esq. was not frivolous or vexatious.---Mr. Mainwaring consequently took his seat for the remainder of the parliament.

Shortly after the decease of Mr. Pitt, a dissolution of parliament being much talked off, Sir Francis published an advertisement, indicating his intention of again standing forward as a senatorial candidate.

Sir Francis may be considered as possessing all the accomplishments of an orator: his figure, though slender, is elegant and manly; his countenance, if not regularly handsome, is expressive, interesting, and exceedingly prepossessing; his voice is strong, clear, and musical; and he always delivers his sentiments with the energy of a man who speaks as he feels.---In private life he is said to be one of the most amiable and unassuming of men.

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The paternal fortune of Sir Francis was ample; and, about seven or eight years ago, on the death of Lady Jones, he came to the possession of a very large unincumbered landed property in Wiltshire. In pursuance of the will of the testator, Sir Francis was obliged to take the name of Jones; but, by passing through certain expensive legal ceremonies, he was enabled to resume his family name.

From his great property, joined to the influence which he possesses, there can scarcely be a doubt, that, on the next general election, he may obtain a seat in parliament, provided that it be his wish. From the change too that has taken place in public affairs, and ministerial influence, it is by no means improbable that he may be returned for Middlesex.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

CHARLES JAMES FOX.

To pourtray, with proper effect, the character of a man so eminently distinguished in the sphere of politics as Mr. Fox, is a task worthy of a genius exalted as his own.---To point out the probable motives of action; to follow, with judgment, their consequences; and, from both, to draw conclusions which must thoroughly impress the mind with a sense of what is right and what is wrong, demands the perspicacity of a Burke, and the reasoning powers of a Johnson. But as the investigation of public characters is both the prerogative and interest of every individual, (since every individual participates in the good or ill which results from them) and as a collection of facts affords the best materials for such investigation, ours be the humble task of presenting them to the reader.

Charles James Fox was born on the 13th of January, 1749, and is the second son of Henry, first Lord Holland, by Lady Georgina Carolina, eldest daughter of the late Duke of Richmond. By the mother's side he is, therefore, descended from the royal house of Stuart; and, consequently, is not only related to most of the great families of the ancient nobility, but is actually allied to the present reigning family.

family. From his paternal descent, however, as far as regards the dignity of birth, he derives no consequence. His father reared his honours on the foundation of his own merit, in his great application and talent in business. A master of figures, no calculation was too intricate for him, and his address in parliament excited the attention of George II. whose patronage soon followed; for, in the year 1754, he raised him to the important office of secretary of war, and on the following year, to the still higher one of secretary of state for the southern department. In 1763 he was, by his present Majesty, created a peer, by the title of Baron Holland, of Foxley. In the year 1756, the Seven Years' War, as it has been since termed, broke out. A series of evils rendered the people dissatisfied with the ministry, and they zealously cried out for a change; to which his Majesty, well advised, acceded; and changing Mr. Fox for Mr. Pitt, afterwards Lord Chatham, all went well and prosperously.

Mr. Fox was, however, soon recalled to office, by means of a coalition between the two parties, and was nominated to the lucrative post of paymaster-general of the forces. It was here that he accumulated that vast wealth which he transmitted to his heirs, and which, in the decline of his life, drew upon him the most bitter sarcasm and opprobrious epithets. He was stigmatized with the appellation of "The public defaulter of unaccounted millions."

This nobleman pursued a career diametrically opposite to that of his son; for he continued to the end of his life, a firm and steady supporter of government. Thus he always maintained a host of friends, who,

who, however they might disapprove his faults, suffered them to pass unnoticed.'

But let us return to the subject of the present memoir. The brightness of Charles's genius was seen with gladness by his fond and delighted father, whose attention was unremitting to the care of his education, while his tenderness for him rather inclined to feminine weakness; he threw aside the reins of paternal authority, and suffered him to riot at large; content to have the love of his darling boy, he sought not to excite his fear; and never did Charles know what it was to approach his father with awe. The following incident will serve to shew the temerity of the lad, and the forbearance of the parent.

When secretary of state, in the midst of the war, having one night a great number of important expresses to dispatch, he took them home from his office in order the more attentively to examine their contents before he sent them away. Charles, then about nine years old, came into the study, to which he had free access, and taking up one of the packets which his father had examined and laid apart for sealing, he perused it with much seeming attention for a time, then expressed his disapprobation of its contents, and thrust it into the fire. Far from being ruffled at this incident, or from attempting to reprimand him, his father turned immediately to look for the office copy, and with the utmost composure made out another.

His lordship was in the habit of treating his children as men, introducing them as men into every company, and accustoming them to deliver their sentiments on all occasions; thus inspiring them with a confidence which encreased in their riper years, and which, in all situations,

situations, rendered them masters of themselves. At the age of fourteen, he accompanied his father to the German Spa, where he was indulged with five guineas a night to sport with at the Pharoah bank.

He was placed at Eton school, under the direction of Dr. Barnard; but had, for his private tutor, Dr. Newcombe, the late Bishop of Waterford. His rapid progress in classical learning while at school, gained him a decided superiority in every class he entered; and as his powers of oratory were superior to that of any boy in the school, he, whenever eloquence was found to be necessary, was always chosen as their leader. The strength of his constitution kept pace with that of his mind, and both were fully exercised. Study and dissipation alternately engrossed his whole attention; nor did the apparent preference of one, hinder the advancement or indulgence of the other. Never contented with mediocrity, he ever sought the extent of whatever excited his attention—cold in nothing, but ardent in every thing. He soon discovered his bias to humanity, by always espousing the weakest side in those contests which so frequently disturb the harmony of juvenile society. He sat as judge in their disputes, and when he saw a school-fellow rejected or oppressed by partiality or prejudice, he frequently exerted his maiden eloquence in favour of justice: thus did he live, the young Solon and Demosthenes of his little state.

Having accomplished his studies at Eton, he was sent to the university of Oxford. Here he is said to have read nine or ten hours a day, during the whole term, without any inconvenience arising from a series of nocturnal rambles, to which he displayed equal devotion.

devotion. Tired, however, at length, with the restraint of college discipline, and with a spirit ill adapted for the apathy of merely contemplative life, he panted for the more active scenes of enterprising men, and obtained leave of his father to make the usual tour.

Never was a mind better formed to reap the solid advantages of travelling. The etiquette of courts, the politics of nations, and the manners of men, attracted his penetrating mind; he enquired into their merits, and made himself master of their economy; he remembered that he was the son of a nobleman, forgot not his own dignity, and had an eye to the service of his country. Notwithstanding these, he frequently overstepped the bounds of propriety: the fascinating vivacity of French manners, and the seduction of Italian luxury, at times enslaved him: he drank large draughts of pleasure, and was often at the gaming table, till his excesses exceeding even the indulgence of his father, whose ears they had reached, he was summoned home; and it was not without repeated commands that he obeyed.

On his return from those scenes of levity and dissipation, his father, in order to abstract him from the too great indulgence in pleasure, proposed his taking a seat in parliament, and thus to detach him from a course which threatened the destruction of his health and fortune. At the general election, therefore, in 1768, Lord Holland procured him the return for Midhurst, in Sussex. Notwithstanding his nonage, for he was not yet twenty, he was suffered to keep his seat; and whether this arose from accident or design in the committee of privileges, remains unknown — The exertions and display of youthful genius never fail

fail to excite good-will and interest, and no youth ever excited so much anxiety and expectation. His powers surpassed the hopes of his most sanguine friends, and he was the favourite subject of conversation in all classes of society. There was such originality in his thinking, and so much of nature in his manner, that he excited universal admiration. His first speech was upon Mr. Wilkes's petition from the King's Bench prison, to be permitted to take his seat, and thereby satisfy the desire of his constituents. Mr. Fox, on this question, did not take the popular side, and that on which the ablest and most constitutional lawyers declared the justice to lie.

Thus he commenced his parliamentary career, in supporting the measures of government; and so highly did the minister of that day value his support, that, in a short time, he was advanced to a seat at the admiralty board. No sooner, however, did he become acquainted with the machinations of government, than he retired, as his friends say, in disgust; his mind revolting at the measures which were preparing for the disastrous scene of the American war. These measures, however, were said to have been softened down, and he was persuaded to resume his seat. In December, 1772, he was raised to a seat at the treasury board. For this he received the taunts of opposition as a placeman, which he repelled in an open ingenuous manner, denying the acceptance of his place to be the price of his services; and declaring, that he should no longer support the measures of government than he found them to be calculated to promote the welfare of the state. He had now a most arduous task to perform; for the incapacity of the ministry was such, as

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required the greatest talents to cover or excuse them. It is a singular proof of the mutability of human affairs to observe, that Mr. Fox had Lord North for his first colleague, and for his first oratorical adversary, Mr. Burke. It may be well, however, to state, that amidst the keenest wit and powerful arguments which these two great men exercised towards each other, they uniformly avoided every thing personal or invidious, our hero, upon all occasions, treating the splendid abilities of his great opponent with the respect and distinction they so justly merited.

The political opinions, which it was Mr. Fox's task to defend and support, were but little calculated to acquire him popularity. For one of these opinions he was severely attacked by the then Lord Advocate of Scotland. He defended himself, however, with great effect. The sentence in dispute was, whether he had said—*the voice of the public was to be collected in that house, or only in that house.* He denied that a just interpretation had been put on his words, and made an appeal to all who heard him, whether, in the opinion he had given concerning the Middlesex election, he had not rested his arguments on the power of the people? Whatever party were wrong in this dispute, the time was now arrived, when this promising statesman would have an opportunity of manifesting those opinions which were congenial to his nature. Mr. Fox became tired of acting from another, and Lord North could relinquish no share of his influence to him. It is supposed, that the same *secret* power which continued for such a length of time to oppose the views and claims of Mr. Fox, then watched the springs of government, and prevented the minister of that day from admitting

admitting him to participate in its fame and emoluments; otherwise, Lord North would have been desirous to retain a man whose powers were so impressive and commanding. He had experienced the services of Mr. Fox as his supporter, and had reason to dread him as an opponent. Mr. Fox was well assured, that the step which he was about to take, would bring on him a censure for inconsistency. He had now supported the ministry for six years, and was conscious, that no abilities, however splendid, no virtues, however great, could wholly excuse an instability of conduct. Whether he had, or had not, uttered the unconstitutional expression imputed to him, there is no doubt, that he had tarnished his political integrity by supporting the measures of men, certainly at variance with the liberty of the nation. He was now, however, about to send an antitode forth into the world, which would correct the evil that he had done.

It is believed that the open rupture between him and the minister took place upon the subject of the Rev. Mr. Horne, now Mr. Horne Tooke, being summoned to the bar of the House of Commons, as the supposed author of a paper, which treated the speaker of that house (Sir Fletcher Norton) with great freedom. Mr. Fox was anticipated in his intention of resigning by a very laconic epistle in the following words: "His majesty has thought proper to order a new commission of the treasury to be made out, in which I do not perceive your name." The manner in which this was conveyed, exceeded the insolence of the composition, it being by the hands of one of the door-keepers. Resentment and contempt now filled the breast of Mr. Fox instead of friendship and esteem; nevertheless,

less, he, for a short time, continued to vote in favour of administration, though he scarcely ever spoke on that side. As soon, however, as Lord North's treatment of him was made known, he quitted the treasury bench, and seated himself on the opposite side. Many attributed this conduct to sinister motives, and perhaps it was not owing to the pure views of conscientious rectitude; but who can shew, by any instance, where he has made emolument a rule of action?

Now in his proper sphere, the talents of Mr. Fox blazed forth in all their native splendor. He joined a band of patriots, whose efforts will be remembered to the latest posterity. By their exertions was terminated a war, unjust in itself, and big with destruction to the country. In questions between assumed privilege and natural right, his mind rises as in its congenial element: he enters into the argument with fervor and decides with judgment: penetration and solidity prove his competency to every subject on which he speaks.

To his firmness at this time, may be ascribed the commencement of that reputation, which he has ever since maintained to the honour of himself and to the interest of the nation. Nothing can more strongly illustrate this assertion than the late arrangement of administration, when, after being excluded for so many years from the councils of his sovereign, he was at length called into honourable office by the joint concurrence of his king and of his country, to lend his great exertions to the support of the state, when the most terrible tempests that ever disturbed the political horizon threatened its destruction. It may be remembered too, as the strongest testimony of his integrity

grity and capability, how strenuously the late premier desired his admission into office, when he found the country in so perilous a state as to require a combination of all its talents and virtue; while it, at the same time, shed a lustre on the many bright qualities of his great rival, who, forgetting every private consideration in the love of his country, could thus call for a man to divide with him his glory and his honour.

But to return—Mr. Fox commenced his system of opposition in the midst of circumstances which enabled him to foresee and foretel the public calamities that should follow; and that with a momentary decision, which could not fail to beget in his hearers a full confidence in the resolutions of his penetrative mind.—For some years the administration had become an object of popular jealousy, owing to the uniform exclusion of the whig interest from any share in the government. A number of statutes, inimical to the people, were enacted against the interest and consent of our colonies in America, which alienated by degrees the affections of their inhabitants, and raised just apprehensions of a civil war, that might ultimately endanger the safety of the whole empire. Notwithstanding a majority in parliament was for coercive measures against our colonial brethren, despondency spread itself over the country, and the public fortune began to decline. Thus circumstanced, if it were necessary to assign any cogent reason for Mr. Fox joining the opposition, it would be sufficient to say, that one of the best moral and political characters was at the head of it. The Marquis of Rockingham might be considered as a good security for the honour of those who acted in conjunction with him. Among this list were seen the

the distinguished names of a Burke, a Dunning, a Camden, and a Barré; names which will be ever remembered with gratitude by the country. Never was more virtue or more ability combined in any opposition, and to their zeal and vigour did the country at that crisis owe its safety. The Rockingham ministry, though short in duration, was productive of the most beneficial consequences, particularly in the correction of many abuses, which threatened to undermine the constitution. By the contractor's bill alone, nearly fifty court minions, ready to sacrifice the kingdom itself to their own interest, were prevented from sitting in parliament. Above fifty thousand revenue-officers, ever ready to support the nomination of the treasury, were deprived of their power of voting. The Board of Trade, a mere lucrative asylum for ministerial apologists, was annihilated and proscribed. Numerous places were either retrenched of their overgrown profits, or entirely suppressed. In these glorious labours, Mr. Fox gave a hearty and a helping hand.

On the subject of taxing America, Mr. Fox laid down the distinction between internal and external taxation, and pointed the sole way that we had left for maintaining the sovereignty and securing the commerce of America for ever. He called the attention of ministers to the conduct of France and Spain, warning them of their hostile designs against this country. The many speeches of Mr. Fox on the interesting subject of that period, were fraught with wisdom, and adorned with the greatest proofs of intellectual attainment. In all the subsequent struggles of that illustrious opposition, he took the lead, and at length succeeded in silencing the sophistry, and checking the corruption

tion of Lord North and his coadjutors, and of putting an end to the American war. By this happy peace, our views were once more directed to commerce, and the nation rose to the happiest pitch of fortune. The funds, which may be considered as the pulse of the nation, rose to an unparalleled height, the three per cents being in a short time at ninety-eight and a fraction.

It is true, that Mr. Fox had no share in the government at this juncture; but it was chiefly owing to him, that the affairs of the nation had been directed into so fortunate a channel.

If it have been the lot of this gentleman, more than that of any other, to be distinguished as an oppositionist, it has arisen from motives far different from those of party spirit, or of selfish views. He has been heard to say, and he was believed when he said it---that all private aversions he solemnly disclaimed, and that that man was not on earth, against whom he harboured the least personal antipathy. "Malignity," he said, "I thank God, is a sensation totally foreign to my feelings." The same declaration he made, on his taking a hostile part against Sir Hugh Palliser, who had preferred a charge against his commander-in-chief, Admiral Keppel. The latter was the relation of Mr. Fox, who defended the character of the honourable and gallant veteran. The dispute between those two naval officers, and the consequent court-martial, excited much animosity in the navy. Mr. Fox made an admirable speech in the house on the occasion: it discovered great powers of oratory, much political sagacity, and a profound knowledge of the human heart. Notwithstanding the honoura-

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ble acquittal of Admiral Keppel by the court-martial, which had declared the accusation to be malicious and ill-founded, the ministry caused the accuser to be appointed governor of Greenwich Hospital. This was considered by many, as well as by Mr. Fox, a measure of such criminality, so hostile to the sense, and so derogatory to the honour of the nation, that it drew from the injured admiral's relation a torrent of indignant oratory, and a motion of censure on the appointment.

In the year 1772, Mr. Fox was involved in a duel with Mr. Adams, in consequence of that gentleman's having conceived himself to be the particular object of Mr. Fox's censure one evening at the house. A letter was sent to Mr. Fox the following day from Mr. Adams, requesting his authorizing the insertion of a paragraph in the public prints, declaring that the language of Mr. Fox was not personally intended for him. Mr. Fox, however, refusing to authorize its insertion by his name, contented himself by declaring that he had addressed himself to the whole of his party, and that Mr. Adams could not apply it individually, unless he felt himself in the predicament upon which he had animadverted. The consequence was a duel, in which Mr. Fox was wounded at the second shot of his antagonist. Mr. Adams acknowledged Mr. Fox's conduct to be completely that of a man of honour, and it was extolled in all companies.

At the death of the Marquis of Rockingham, Mr. Fox, from principle alone, quitted the administration of which he had been a member, only as long as that nobleman had taken the lead. He said what is honourable to his memory: "In resigning my situation as secretary of state, I am not insensible to the inconvenience,

venience, I might almost say, to the necessity of its emoluments: but in a case where honour or profit must be sacrificed, I could not be long in resolving what to do.—I dictate to no gentleman how he is to act; but as there are several in the same predicament as myself, if they feel as I do, they will act as I do." On this occasion, his example was followed by several of his friends.

As before observed, nearly the whole of Mr. Fox's political career has been in opposition. At the conclusion of the American war, it must be remembered, that a coalition of two great parties took place, which brought him again, for a short time, into power. This step of our patriot was productive of much unpopularity to him, and it must be confessed, that in joining Lord North, against whom he had uttered the bitterest invectives, and whose measures he had so strenuously reprobated, there appeared a striking inconsistency.

The British dominions in the East Indies being at this time, in a most alarming state, some prompt and decided measure was deemed necessary to stop the evil. On this, Mr Fox brought in his famous India Bill, the object of which was to invest commissioners, appointed by parliament, with the direction of the company's affairs, for a duration of four years. This bill, notwithstanding the strong opposition of Mr. Pitt and his party, was carried by a great majority in the House of Commons. The country, however, did not seem to approve of it; petitions poured in from various quarters againt it, and, on the motion for its commitment in the House of Peers, it was finally thrown out. The consequence was, that the coalition

was dissolved, and Mr. Fox was again in opposition. Mr. Pitt afterwards brought in *his* India Bill, which leaving the company the perfect freedom of its charter, was found to be more congenial to the minds of the public, and it was carried in both houses of parliament; but subsequent experience has divided the opinions of the public upon the merits of the rival bills.

One of the most singular traits of Mr. Fox's polical conduct, was his receding entirely from the business of parliament during the powerful sway of the late premier. He saw that nothing was to be gained by his presence in the house, but that something might be for ever lost to himself, by continuing in a situation where he was liable, by provocation, to utter expressions which might be misconstrued by three-fourths of his hearers. For this step he assigned reasons which certainly ought not to be rejected. He acknowledged that he was liable to error, and even to eccentric opinions, as other men; but the purity of his intentions, and the independence of his mind, were rights which he had determined to preserve at all hazards, which he would not yield to the humour or solicitude of his best friends, of all the electors of Great Britain, of a majority of the whole world, and from which he would only part with his life.

Mr. Fox has been constantly a distinguished member of the Whig-Club, among whom his sentiments have ever been uttered with the freedom and confidence of a brother. His enemies have exclaimed loudly against his acceptance of a gratuitous subscription from his friends; but, surely, of all pensions, none can be more honourable than such a one as this, where

where every subscriber acts from his own judgment and affections; and he, whose conduct arose from principle, and who could despise the personal advantages which genius, like his, may always command, honoured both them and himself by his acceptance of it. An exalted mind will both oblige and be obliged, and he who withholds from the one, or contemns the other, is equally actuated by selfish principles.

The attractions of fashion, and the force of custom, may, in the early part of his life, have drawn him into embarrassments which wisdom must condemn, and the expedients to which he had recourse, in order to extricate himself from those embarrassments, were not less deserving of censure ; but we have never heard of one studied act of dishonour on his part. It is true, indeed, that many of the descendants of Abraham have reproached him on occasions, for want of punctuality in his payments, and, possibly, were all the scenes disclosed which have passed between him and them in his back-parlour, (which he facetiously denominated his *Jerusalem chamber*) his enemies might receive considerable gratification.

His vivacity often exposed him to severe and partial animadversion. Such, for instance, as that when his brother's house was in flames, his offering to bet the noble owner, which beam, which partition, or which chimney, would next give way. But we do not, nor, we trust, will any, except the most credulous, believe half the strange stories that are recounted of this uncommon character. That manners the most contrasted, and conduct the most opposite, have been seen in him, cannot be denied. Thus in the early part of his career, he was at once, the most con-

summate statesman and the most extravagant buck—while exerting the powers of his oratory to economise the nation, he was ruining his own fortune—while the senate listened with wonder and admiration at the wisdom of his orations, the young and the thoughtless were following him as the leader of their fashions and their follies. In dress he exceeded the most finished fop: he revived the fashion of red-heeled shoes, which had been laid aside at the beginning of the last century, by wearing them on a birth-night; and a variety of personal decorations of that time owed their origin to his fertile invention.

During the peace of Amiens, Mr. Fox visited Paris, and was received at the court of the First Consul with marks of the highest respect. How far the high opinion which Buonaparte appeared to entertain for him may prove conciliatory, now that he is become a minister, time will shew.

The late disastrous and unexpected events upon the continent, having rendered the great designs of Mr. Pitt, for checking the ambition of France, and restoring the balance of Europe, ineffectual, the nation seemed to droop with disappointment and dismay; and the lamented death of that great man taking place immediately after, left it in a state unknown to the records of history. This was no moment for party contention. The sovereign and the people were actuated by the same mind. It was found that nothing but a combination of the greatest talent in the country could be able to stand against such an accumulation of evils, and direct the helm amid the tempest. All former animosity was forgotten on every side, and the long-rejected Mr. Fox was at this momentous period called to

to the councils of his sovereign, in conjunction with the most splendid ability, and tried integrity of the nation. May one heart and one mind direct them, till they bring their country out of all its dangers, and restore to mankind a blessing which, alas! they have almost forgotten.

Mr. Fox was always forward to confess the brilliant genius and high attainments of his great rival, and whenever he spoke of his talents, no friend could utter his praises with more enthusiasm. He was equally alive to the sentiments of friendship and of love. In the former, perhaps, his feelings blinded his judgment: they magnified beauties and rendered faults invisible, as in his eulogium on the late Duke of Bedford, in the House of Commons. He ascribed to that nobleman every virtue, every dignity of man, denying him even a fault; or if he had a fault, that it was the result of virtue. We confess, that we could see nothing of this transcendent virtue or greatness of mind, nothing that raised him above the common standard of his contemporaries, except his great wealth. With a heart so warm and sanguine, it was impossible that he should remain indifferent to the merits of the other sex, towards whom his conduct was ever marked with honour. The reader will be enabled to form a pretty just idea of the delicacy of his sentiment to the fair, as well as of the ease and elegance of his poetical numbers, by the following address to the beautiful Mrs. Crewe, which he composed about the year 1780. What rank he would have obtained in the Parnassian court, had he made poetry his object, we leave to the judgment of the reader.

TO

TO MRS. CREWE.

Where the loveliest expression to features is join'd,
By nature's most delicate pencil design'd;
Where blushes unbidden, and smiles without art,
Speak the softness and feeling that dwell in the heart;
Where, in manners enchanting, no blemish we trace,
But the soul keeps the promise we had from the face;
Sure reason, philosophy, coldness, must prove
Defences unequal to shield us from love!
Then tell me, mysterious enchanter! O tell,
By what wonderful art, by what magical spell,
My heart is so fenc'd, that for once I am wise,
And gaze without raptures on Amoret's eyes;
That my wishes, which never were bounded before,
Are here bounded by friendship, and ask for no more.
Is't reason? No! that my whole life will belye;
For who so at variance as reason and I?
Is't ambition that fills up each chink of my heart,
Nor allows any softer sensation a part?
Oh, no; for in this all the world must agree,
One folly was never sufficient for me.
Is my mind on distress too intensely employ'd,
Or by pleasure relax'd, by variety cloy'd?
For, alike in this only, enjoyment and pain
Both slacken the strings of those nerves which they strain.
That I've felt each reverse that from fortune can flow,
That I've tasted each bliss that the happiest can know,
Has still been the whimsical fate of my life,
Where anguish and joy have been ever at strife.
But, tho' vers'd in th' extremes both of pleasure and pain,
I am still but too ready to feel them again.
If then, for this once in my life, I am free,
And escape from a snare might catch wiser than me,
'Tis that beauty alone but imperfectly charms,
For, though brightness may dazzle, 'tis kindness that warms.

As on suns in the winter with pleasure we gaze,
But feel not their warmth, though their splendor we praise;
So beauty our just admiration may claim,
But love, and love only, our hearts can enflame.

His constant attachment to Mrs. Armstead is worthy of praise. He led that lady to the altar, we believe, in the year 1794, although he did not avow it for eight years after. With this lady he found a sweet companion in retirement from the tumult of political contention; enjoying at St. Ann's Hill all the charms of domestic life and private friendship. In company Mr. Fox is the soul of the party, inspiring all around him with good-humour and cheerfulness: he is free from that repulsive austerity, commonly the appendage of those whose minds are inferior to their fortune; the freedom and urbanity of his address banish that awe from those who approach him, which is generally felt in the presence of great men. The vehemence which is often found to accompany his public speaking, is the result of education and of what he considers his duty; but in the height of his declamation, deep thought and solid argument are ever conspicuous. "He has faults," said Mr. Burke, "but they are faults, that, though they may, in a small degree, tarnish his lustre, and sometimes impede the march of his abilities, have nothing in them to extinguish the fire of great virtues. In those faults, there is no mixture of deceit, of hypocrisy, of pride, of ferocity, of complexional despotism, or want of feeling for the distresses of mankind. His are faults which might exist in a descendant of Henry the Fourth of France, as they did exist in that father of his country."

Mr.

Mr. Fox is now secretary of state for the foreign department; a station for which his great knowledge of the politics of Europe peculiarly adapts him.—His faculties seem still in their full vigour; but we fear that his body begins to feel the pressure of years, and the effects of a life occupied in mental labour.---That he may, however, live, and by his further efforts prove himself, in an honourable old age, the faithful friend of his king, his country, and of mankind, must be the ardent wish of every patriotic bosom.

MR. WILLIAM HAYLEY.

THERE is no description of men, whose characters and lives have been sought with more avidity by the reader of taste, than those of poets. The mind of a poet must be above the common standard: it must be formed by genius; and genius is mostly eccentr .--- This eccentricity leads its possessor into various scenes and dilemmas which cannot fail to interest the observer. We, however, caution the reader, not to seek his amusement here from any such motive; the subject of our present memoir possessing, perhaps, less of singularity, both in his mind and actions, than any of his brethren.

William Hayley is the son of Thomas Hayley, Esq. of the county of Sussex, and of Miss Yeates, daughter of Colonel Yeates, member for Chichester, and was born in that city in October, 1745. He lost his father in his infancy, but received from his mother the most strict and tender attention. When very young, he was placed at Kingston school; but sickness, and a peculiarly delicate constitution, greatly impeded the first stages of his learning. His stay at Kingston was but short; for his mother, fearing that the strict attention and discipline of a school might prove more

injurious to his health, had him instructed in classical learning under the maternal roof. He was then sent to Eton college, where he was more remarked as a juvenile philanthropist than as a poet, his conduct evidencing rather an amiable nature, than any thing resulting from genius or fancy.

At the age of sixteen, he entered Trinity Hall, Cambridge, where he was, for the first time, drawn aside from his collegiate course to celebrate in lyric song the birth of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. This first flight of his muse overtopped many competitors of the time on the same subject; but such a superiority was poor and unsatisfactory to a youth, whose ardour taught him to imagine himself entitled to the panegyric of the nation, and to the patronage of royalty. His advances, however, in knowledge, and a more matured judgment, taught him to set a proper estimate on his effusion, and cordially to join in sentiment with those who condemned it.

He had, however, tasted the charm of the muse, and he felt himself possessed with a strong desire to cultivate her further inspirations. But to become worthy of her, he found that the boundaries of his knowledge must be greatly extended. He, therefore, from this period, until that of his marriage, comprising a term of about seven years, devoted himself to a constant and laborious study of the best authors of ancient and modern times. He drew his sources of future mental riches from the poets and orators of Greece and Rome, and followed the progress of the art of poetry with slow, but steady steps, from the revival of European literature up to the present time. He attended to the most approved and best established

works of criticism, holding, however, his own opinion free and unshackled amid the authority of others.—In the French and Italian languages he found rich mines of instruction and fancy, and became a master of the beauties of Corneille, Racine, Rousseau, Voltaire, Dante, and Tasso. He likewise cultivated a taste for the fine arts, and became conversant in the principles of statuary and painting.

In 1769, he married Miss Ball, daughter of the Dean of Chichester, when he took a residence and settled in town. But the gay scenes of fashionable life afforded no delights to him: they palled upon his mind, and feeling the poetic glow within him, he began to long again for those scenes where the muses love to dwell. At the termination, therefore, of five years, he left the noise of town, and the dissipation of what is termed polite life, and retired to his country seat in Sussex. The first two years of his retirement were devoted to the charms of rural enjoyment, and to the practice of poetical theory, which he was so desirous of forming. While in London, he had occasionally produced some effusions of his muse, which had met the approbation of competent judges; but his timidity prevented him from submitting them to the public.

This timidity, however, was at length borne down by that fervid hope so congenial to poetic minds, and the desire of obtaining a name that might outlive both hope and fear, urged him to enter the field of literary honour. Strongly desirous to select a subject that might enable him to combine, equally, the charms of novelty and interest, he was, for a time, at a loss on what to fix, till, at length, that of painting struck his

mind

mind and arrested his choice. Scarcely any subject could afford greater scope than this, to the wild luxuriance of poetic fancy: there is no confinement; but the variety is ample and unbounded; whether it display the glowing scenes of animated nature, the important incidents of the historic page, or the contrasted characters of men and manners.

His Essay on Painting being completed, he published it in 1778, and thus, in his thirty-third year, commenced his career as an author. The criticisms which he introduced into this work, though, in common instances accurate, were censured by the artists, whose judgment in their own peculiar province cannot be disputed. The diction of the poem is, in general, adequate to the subject; it is perspicuous, flowing, and impassioned. Mr. Hayley appears to have been aware, that the most attractive substitute for novelty of idea is the music of versification. This poem, however, has been condemned for a redundancy of style, and for a want of variety in the construction of its periods.

The poem was, notwithstanding, deservedly praised, and its author was by the earnest solicitation of his friends and admirers urged to resume his residence in London.

Had ambition been a strong trait of his mind, he had now a full opportunity of indulging in it. The poem, from the peculiarity of its subject, combined with its merit, had excited a considerable degree of importance in the literary, the scientific, and the polite world, and the most eminent critics of the day appeared forward to load him with honourable and distinguished patronage, which must have advanced him

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in the road of interest and profit. But the love of personal and immediate praise, and the desire of riches, were insufficient to draw him from the sweet peace of domestic life and the pleasures of his farm.

In 1780, his Essay on History appeared, and bore most decisive marks of improvement. This work certainly possesses the strongest claims, of all his productions, to literary honour. It exemplifies the happy art of embellishing character with animated description, splendid imagery, and dignity of sentiment. The improvement, however, naturally arose with his choice of a subject more conformable to his general knowledge, and more congenial to the public taste.

"The Triumphs of Temper," was the next in procession. In this piece he certainly gave greater latitude to poetic fancy than in his former ones. It displays infinitely greater confidence in his powers, and he ranges in the regions of imagination free and unconfined. There is, however, something of temerity, and in his daring flights, where he would seem to hail the sun, he is sometimes enveloped in clouds and obscurity. His allegories are too frequent, and his diction too full of pomp and labour; and, frequently, where he means to dazzle, he only confounds. Mr. Sheridan is said to have uttered upon this poem, the following severely sarcastic impromptu :—

"Miss keeps her temper five long cantos through ;—
"Egad, its more than half your readers do !"

It must, notwithstanding, be allowed, that even in the irregularities of the production, there is frequently a grandeur of which its author might not, possibly, have been deemed capable.

The muse of our poet appeared now to be on full

wing.

wing, disdaining even to rest on the sweets of praise and popularity. In 1782, the *literati* were surprised at the publication of the "Essay on Epic Poetry."—This was indeed a task which fully indicated him to possess a very high opinion of his own powers. The merits of this piece are comprised in, we would say confined to, the harmony of numbers, and to the copiousness of expression. Little more it has to boast. It unfortunately displays a negligence of the connexion which ought to subsist between language and thought, words and meaning. It does, indeed, discover numerous proofs of deep study and close investigation, with unquestionable proofs of a profound knowledge of the subject. But something more than these are requisite. The person who undertakes to form the judgment, and to fix the taste of others, ought not to leave them at a loss to understand his meaning, and to require a commentator to elucidate his propositions. He ought to be concise, clear, and convincing. These requisites are seldom found in his "Essay on Epic Poetry;" while, on the other hand, he is too frequently loose and careless of appropriate language.

In his rhyming attempts at dramatic composition, Mr. Hayley has fallen very short. They, truly, possess beauties, but such, as alone, are not sufficient for the stage. Their sentiments are chaste, and the versification correct, and sometimes luxurious. But they are barren of that incident which keeps the expectation alive, and the persons are devoid of that character which marks the vigorous hand of a master.

In the year 1804, he published "The *Triumph* of Music;" but, alas! it proved almost the *defeat* of himself. The *literati* seemed to sigh as they read it, and

every

every reader, acquainted with the merit of Hayley, wondered at the unequal production. Such a falling off was scarcely ever known in poetic history. The object of our author was to exemplify the amazing power of harmony, and the subject was worthy of his genius; we sincerely regret, that his execution of it has proved to us—how even a poet may degenerate. When we look at Shakespeare, Miltón, Dryden, Pope, and, we will add, Collins, and see how much they have combined, on this subject, in a few verses, and then compare those verses with the *six cantos, in a quarto volume*, of Mr. Hayley, we cannot but sigh at the sad contrast. The object of the present poem is, as we have before observed, to exemplify the effect of music upon the human mind; and the principal incident on which this exemplification rests, is the converting two assassins from their purpose (when just upon the point of putting it in execution) of murdering the hero of the piece; and this incident he professes to have borrowed from a true Italian story.—We do not by any means doubt the possibility of such an event, far less do we hold in question the words of Mr. Hayley; but, we confess, that we should be sorry to be the object of a hired assassin's purpose, even though Apollo and the nine Muses stood by to charm him. We are by no means callous to the delights of music; but we cannot attach so much importance to it as Mr. Hayley does. The greatest proficients in this art are the Italians; but were we to look for extraordinary virtue, we certainly should not seek it in Italy; neither, if we examine into the lives of its professors, in our own country, should we find much reason to venerate them as examples to society.

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The story of this poem is common. It is merely an old music-master, by the magic of *sound* (heaven knows, the ladies are too apt to be captivated by that alone) engaging the affections of a young lady, his pupil, with whom he runs away. The incidents are very few, and these are spun out to six tedious cantos. The versification is languid, broken, and confused, and the sentiments utterly unworthy of the former productions of the author. But that which is most unworthy, most unlike Mr. Hayley, is, that the moral is bad. The heroine is led to conceive that there is nothing more exalted than music: she divides her honours between that and religion; *she* is guilty of disobedience, and *her lover* of treachery, towards the supposed father of the former, who, however much he may deserve it, certainly does not exculpate them from the demerit of their crime. In short every young romantic girl, who may read this, will be inclined, unless her heart be previously engaged, to elope with her music-master the very first opportunity. We will not quit this subject, without noticing a fault still more offensive than all the rest. This is the frequent repetition of the name of GOD, who hath said—" Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain!"

His " Life of Cowper," proved a rich repast to the lovers of taste and poetry. It manifested Mr. Hayley to possess a heart, open to all the warmth and dignity of friendship; and his readers will know how to excuse faults which had their origin in the best of sentiments. He describes, with a minute hand, the various shades of character which were peculiar to Cowper, and his admiration and affection seem divided between the poet and the man. He presents to the reader a series of the most familiar letters of the amiable and accomplished poet; and in those letters the reader

reader may peruse the very soul of their author. Cowper was indeed, the most sensitive of poets and of men. An appendix to these volumes contains a few original poems, with some translations of greek epigrams, &c.

In 1805 Mr. Hayley published an octavo volume of ballads, founded on anecdotes relating to animals.—

This work fully illustrates the native philanthrophy of its author. Its object is professedly to excite in juvenile hearts the sentiment of pity towards the brute-creation, and to restrain them from the exercise of that cruelty which is too often their predominant feature. We regret that its execution is wholly incommensurate with the expectation of the reader of taste.

Zealous for the honour of his friend Cowper, as also for that of national gratitude, he published a proposal for a monument, to be erected to the memory of the poet. This proposal was received with marks of the strongest approbation by several eminent characters, who instantly came forward, and entered their names on the subscription-list. But an incident took place which led Mr. Hayley to seek to turn the stream of public gratitude into another channel, which should be equally expressive of esteem for Cowper, and, at the same time, be productive of more beneficial consequences. This he explained in a circular letter to the various subscribers. "Since the publication of my first proposal," says the benevolent Hayley, "a favorite godson and namesake of Cowper has had the misfortune to become an orphan at an early age. It has occurred to me, that I may improve the tribute of general respect to the memory of the poet, by converting his manuscripts, relating to *Milton*, not into marble, but into a little fund, to assist the education and future establishment of this interesting orphan."—He then

proceeds

proceeds to state, that his object is to publish Cowper's translation of the Latin and Italian poems of Milton, by subscription, and to appropriate it to the use of the child. He thus concludes: "All persons inclined to befriend the publication here recommended, to their favour for the benefit of the poet's orphan god-child, are respectfully requested to pay their intended contributions to Mr. Johnson, of St. Paul's Church-yard; or to Mr. Evans, Pall-Mall. Those who have made their respective payments, in consequence of a different proposal, are now gratefully desired, either to recal or confirm them at pleasure." This letter was circulated last February, and, we believe, met with the general approval of the admirers of Cowper.

Mr. Hayley, besides the works already mentioned, has published several of a miscellaneous kind, fraught with amusement and instruction.

As a poet, Mr. Hayley far transcends mediocrity. He has never prostituted his muse to unworthy purposes, and although he does not possess much of the blaze of genius, the beautiful melody of his versification, with the chaste sentiments which it conveys, will convey his name with honour to posterity.

As a man, he is equally respectable. From his youth his conduct has been marked by benevolence, integrity, and independence. He lives at Eartham, in the most elegant retirement. His grounds are laid out by himself, and display a taste worthy of their possessor. He has an affliction in his son, who has long been in a declining state of health. In order that this son may have the benefit of sea-bathing, Mr. Hayley has built an elegant cottage at Telpham, near Bagnor, where he spends much of his time.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

LORD HENRY PETTY,

Chancellor and Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer, and M. P. for the University of Cambridge.

WHEN the late Mr. Pitt was first contemplated in the imposing situation of Chancellor of his Majesty's Exchequer, his extreme youth caused him to be regarded as a phenomenon in the world of politics. His subsequent long and glorious, though not uniformly successful career, gave proof, however, that age is not invariably an essential of wisdom, of penetration, of enterprize, or of stability.

> " Now in his eyes the lightning seemed to play,
> " And beam'd about an animating ray;
> " The coldest clod with patriot pride t'inspire,
> " And pallid apathy with glory fire."

The similarity of situation, and of introduction into public life, of Mr. Pitt, and of Lord Henry Petty, seems naturally to excite a comparison between them. Mr. Pitt was the younger son of the first and most accomplished statesman of the age; and the present Chancellor of the Exchequer is also the younger son of a nobleman, eminently distinguished for his political knowledge, and for his diplomatic skill. Lord Chatham retired from public life to superintend the education of his favourite son; and on the Marquis of Lansdowne likewise devolved the sole care of Lord

Henry

Pub. Sep. 1, 1806, by James Cundee, London.

Henry Petty. In the progress of this memoir, we shall have occasion somewhat farther to pursue this parallel; and to enable the reader to follow us with the greater facility, we shall first present a genealogical statement of the Lansdowne family, and then exhibit a brief outline of the public life of the late Marquis. This, we conceive, will form the best introduction to the biography of Lord Henry Petty.

The Marquis of Lansdowne is descended from Walter Fitzother, constable of the castle and steward of the county of Pembroke, in Wales, whose two grandsons, Maurice and William, went over to Ireland with Richard Strongbow, Earl of Pembroke, and there founded the noble families of Fitzgerald, Duke of Leinster, and Fitzmaurice, Earl of Kerry. The adopted name of Petty, with the princely estate in Ireland, is derived from his maternal great uncle, Henry Earl of Shelburne, a son of the late Sir William Petty who commemorated himself by his "Survey of Ireland," and by other literary works. In May 1760, George II. created the first Marquis (then Viscount Fitzmaurice) an English peer, by the title of Baron Wycombe.—Early in Mr. Pitt's administration, the late Marquis (till then Earl of Shelburne) was created Marquis of Lansdowne, which title he chose after the beautiful seat called Lansdowne Hill, at Bath, a portion of the Granville estates, accruing to him by his first marriage (1765) with Lady Sophia Carteret, daughter and heiress of the late Earl of Granville, and mother to the present Marquis of Lansdowne.

The late Marquis being intended for the army had, at a proper age, a commission in the guards, and served with the British troops in Germany, under

Prince Ferdinand. At the battle of Campen and Minden he gave strong proofs that he possessed personal courage. When the campaign was over he returned to England, and was, on the 4th of December, 1760, appointed aid-de-camp to the king, with the rank of Colonel. His father dying in May, 1761, he remained in England and succeeded to his paternal honours. Being always graciously received by the king, a circumstance very flattering to a young man, he was readily induced to adopt the politics of the Court, and to join the party of Lord Bute, who, at that time, was First Lord of the Treasury. Accordingly we find his Lordship in the Upper House, and his friend Colonel Barré, whom he patronized through life, in the Lower House, on the great debate respecting the preliminary articles of peace, signed at Fontainbleau, on the 3d of November, 1762, warmly and strongly supporting the measures of the Court. This debate was on the 9th of December, 1762. And when Lord Bute left the Treasury, and Mr. Grenville succeeded, which was in the month of April 1763, Lord Shelburne was in the same month appointed First Lord of the Board of Trade, in the room of the late Mr. Charles Townshend, who had resigned, after holding the office only six weeks; and Lord Shelburne staid in it only five months. Lord Shelburne's resignation was said, at the time it happened (September, 1763), to be owing to a difference between his Lordship and Lord Holland, concerning the office of Paymaster, which Lord Holland had equivocally promised to resign in favour of Lord Shelburne; and Mr. Calcraft, who was Lord Holland's friend, and had been many years patronized by him, was in some degree implicated in this affair,

as being privy to the engagement. Churchill, the poet, alludes to it in the following lines in his poem called "The Conference:"

> "May I be scorned by ev'ry man of worth,
> If I am one, among the many known,
> Whom Shelburne fled, and Calcraft blush'd to own."

Upon this occasion Lord Shelburne quitted the court and the ministry, and held no communication with either for some years. Mr. Calcraft did the same, though in no shape attached to Lord Shelburne.

His Lordship, from the moment he quitted the court, ardently wished to attach himself to Lord Chatham. At length an opening for this wish incidentally occurred In the year 1765, the Rockingham administration had not the approbation of Lord Chatham, yet they wished to shew that they had somewhat of his countenance; and therefore they made his law-friend, Lord Chief Justice Pratt, a peer, by the title of Lord Camden. From this moment Lord Shelburne and Lord Camden became intimate, and their sentiments agreeing upon all public points, an union was soon accomplished between Lord Chatham and Lord Shelburne. When the Rockingham administration was displaced in the year 1766, and Lord Chatham was called upon to form a new administration, he made Lord Shelburne secretary of state for the southern department, to which was annexed the department of the colonies. While he held this situation, the contest with the colonies (which had in some measure been laid asleep by the repeal of the stamp act,) was revived by new measures. He gave unequivocal proofs of his decided opinion against these new measures; and when it was resolved

resolved that the French should possess themselves of Corsica, without any interruption from this country, he resolved to resign, which he did in October, 1768. The American war succeeded; during which he regularly and with great energy opposed the measures of the ministry. Amongst other projects to support the war was the appointment of Mr. Fullarton, a secretary to Lord Stormont, when abroad, to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the army, and to the command of an intended new regiment. When these matters came before the house of lords, Lord Shelburne spoke of it with some degree of contempt and asperity, denominating the commander a *commis, a clerk, &c.* taken from the desk. Mr. Fullarton, judging these terms highly derogatory to his rank, sent Lord Shelburne a challenge to fight him. As Mr. Fullarton was a member of the house of commons, Lord Shelburne did not chuse to treat the message with the contempt it deserved, but accepted the challenge.— The following is an authentic account of the duel sent to Mr. Almon, by whom it was published:

"Lord Shelburne, with Lord Frederick Cavendish for his second; and Mr. Fullarton, with Lord Balcarras for his second, met at half past five in Hyde-Park, March 22, 1780. Lord Balcarras and Lord Frederick Cavendish proposed that both parties should obey the seconds. Lord Shelburne and Colonel Fullarton walked together, while Lord Balcarras and Lord Frederick Cavendish adjusted all ceremonials, and fixed on pistols as the proper weapons. When they came to the ground Lord Shelburne told them, that his pistols were already loaded, and offered to draw them, which was rejected by Lord Balcarras and Colonel Fullarton; upon which Lord Bal-

carras

carras loaded Colonel Fullarton's pistols. The seconds having agreed that twelve paces was a proper distance, the parties took their ground. Colonel Fullarton was ordered by the seconds to fire; he fired and missed: Lord Shelburne returned it, and missed; Mr. Fullarton then fired his second pistol, and hit Lord Shelburne in the right groin, which his Lordship signified, upon which every body ran up; the seconds interposed, Lord Frederick Cavendish offered to take the pistol from Lord Shelburne, but his Lordship refused to deliver it up, saying, "I have not fired that pistol." Mr. Fullarton returned immediately to his ground, which he had left with a view of assisting his Lordship, and repeatedly desired his Lordship to fire at him, Lord Shelburne said, "Sure, Sir, you don't think I would fire my pistol at you," and fired it in the air. The parties and their seconds got together. Lord Balcarras asked Lord Shelburne, if he had any difficulty in declaring he meant nothing personal to Colonel Fullarton. His Lordship replied, "You know it has taken another course; this is no time for explanation." His Lordship then said to Colonel Fullarton, "Although I am wounded, I am able to go on, if you feel any resentment. Col. Fullarton said, he hoped that he was incapable of harbouring that sentiment. Lord Frederick Cavendish declared, that, from the character he had heard of Colonel Fullarton, he believed so. Colonel Fullarton said, as your Lordship is wounded, and has fired in the air, it is impossible for me to go on. Lord Balcarras and Lord Frederick Cavendish immediately declared, that the parties had ended the affair, by behaving as men of the strictest honour.

"Mr.

"Mr. Almon may be assured, the above is a faithful narrative, and written under the immediate inspection of the seconds.

(Signed) "BALCARRAS.

"FRED. CAVENDISH."

Lord Shelburne was conveyed to Hyde-Parke Corner, and there put into a hackney-coach, which conveyed him home.

This affair was immediately known through the town. In the afternoon of the same day, Sir James Lowther, (afterwards Lord Lonsdale) mentioned it, and complained of it in the house of commons, and there were violent debates upon it.

This affair happening so soon after a similar one between Mr. Fox and Mr. Adam, (*November* 29, 1779,) and being attributed to the same causes and motives, occasioned no small degree of agitation throughout the kingdom. The public addresses of congratulation from the cities of London and Westminster, from several of the county meetings which happened about this time, and from the committees of association to the Earl of Shelburne, upon his recovery; all held out the idea, in the most forcible language, that his life had been endangered by the faithful and spirited discharge of his public duty as a peer of parliament.

The death of Lord Chatham placed him at the head of his political connections, which had already been denominated the Shelburne party, and which reckoned among its supporters the names of Townshend, of Camden, and of Dunning. He continued in opposition to the measures of the court until the termination of Lord

Lord North's ministry, which was at the end of March, 1782. A new ministry being then formed, his Lordship was appointed Secretary of State; but in the month of July, of the same year, the Marquis of Rockingham, who was considered at the head of the new ministry, died. This circumstance occasioned a schism in the party. Mr. Fox and his friends ardently contended for the Duke of Portland to be their new head. His Majesty, however, appointed the Earl of Shelburne first Lord of the treasury, which was the situation Lord Rockingham had held, and consequently he was to be considered as the head of the ministry. When this appointment was announced, Mr. Fox and his friends immediately resigned. Lord Shelburne found no difficulty in filling their situations with friends of his own. He justified his conduct, affirming, "that the office he now held was within his grasp, when the first arrangements were forming, but he had then given way to the noble marquis, though he had accepted the post, as that gentleman was no more; and that, if the monarch was divested of the power of appointing his own servants, he would be reduced to the condition of a king of the Mahrattas, who had nothing of sovereignty but the name." Lord Shelburne's first object was to make peace; but after the peace was concluded, and the treaty laid before the house of commons, such a coalition of parties had been formed against the minister, that the treaty met with the disapprobation of the house. Not chusing to stand against the sense of a majority of the house of Commons, he immediately resigned, and young Mr. Pitt, not then twenty-four years of age, was appointed his successor, and prime-minister. His Lordship continued some time on good terms

terms with the new minister, and received, as a just reward for his services, the title of Marquis of Lansdown, with the honours of the garter. When the French revolution took place he earnestly deprecated our interference; but all his arguments and reasoning had no weight.

After he separated from the court, in the year 1763, he continued firm in his political principles. Through life he resisted the increasing influence of the crown, and the enormous additions to the public debt: he suggested, at various times, inquiries into the public expenditure; proposed the abolition of useless places; and brought forward motions which tended to establish a rigid system of public economy. With foreign politics, and foreign courts, it may, with the strictest truth, be affirmed, that, no statesman in Europe was better acquainted. Prince Henry of Prussia, Choiseuil, Herzberg, Bernstorff, Kaunitz, and their confidants, were his correspondents. In every cabinet on the continent, and in every German chancery, he had a friendly agent. This extensive, minute, and correct information, added to the strength of his judgment, sagacity, penetration, and genius, procured for him the character and reputation of being one of THE FIRST STATESMEN IN EUROPE.

This celebrated character, it will be recollected by the public, died at Lansdowne house*, in Berkeley-square, on the 7th of May 1805, and was succeeded by his

* In the year 1762, Lord Bute purchased a piece of waste ground, that lay between the garden-wall of Devonshire house and the bottom of Berkeley-square, in London. It was formerly a pool

his eldest son, John Henry, who took the oaths and his seat early in the present session of parliament.

Lord Henry Petty, as before observed, was the youngest son of the late Marquis of Lansdowne, by his second lady, Louisa Fitzpatrick, sister to the existing Earl of Upper Ossory, and to the late Dowager Lady Holland (mother of the present Lord Holland), and was born in July, 1780. At nine years old, Henry was deprived of the affection of his accomplished mother, Lady Louisa, who died August 2, 1789.

In consequence of this event, the superintendance of the instruction of Lord Henry now devolved exclusively on the Marquis, who, it is evident, from the preceding outline, was admirably well qualified for such a task. At a proper age, however, his lordship became a pupil at Westminster-school, whence he was sent to the university of Cambridge, under the care of the Rev. Mr. Debarry, who had been his preceptor during the time he was placed at Westminster. He gave early promise of talents, and his oration before the university exhibited such a display of excellence as to confirm the favourable opinion at first entertained of his abilities.

Immediately after the ratification of the treaty of Amiens, his lordship took the advantage of peace, and, accompanied by M. Dumont, a gentleman high in political estimation, and a native of Switzerland, visited

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pool of dirty water, discembogued from Curzon-street, &c. After raising the ground, and draining the water, Lord Bute resolved to build a magnificent house, but proceeded no farther. He sold the premises for eighteen thousand pounds, and the Marquis of Lansdowne (then Earl of Shelburne) bought them.

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that once happy and admired country, taking Paris in his way, and then proceeding to Geneva. After his return, he was chosen, at the general election in 1802, a member of parliament for Calne in Wiltshire.

The first subject which particularly excited his lordship's attention, after he became a member of the national representation, was the Irish bank-restriction bill, on the discussion of which measure (February 13, 1804) he delivered his maiden speech. He was followed by the celebrated Mr. Foster, who expressed great deference for the remarks made by his lordship. During this session of parliament, Lord Henry voted in favour of an inquiry into the conduct of the Irish government, pending the rebellion in that country; he also divided with Mr. Fox against Mr. Pitt, on the motion respecting the inefficacy of our naval force, and on that against the Irish militia-augmentation bill: his lordship afterwards voted (June 8th) against Mr. Pitt's (then minister) additional force bill; and on the 22d of the same month, he gave his "hearty assent" to the motion against the lord advocate of Scotland.

Nothing farther of senatorial importance occurred in the house of commons, until the night of April the 8th, 1805, when the motion was made for criminating Lord Melville, as treasurer of the navy. On this occasion Lord Henry Petty rose immediately after Mr. Pitt had sat down, and distinguished himself in such a manner, as procured him the *honour* (if it may be termed one) of being added to the committee (February 12, 1806) for conducting the impeachment of Lord Melville. Mr. Fox, who chose not to let this opportunity escape of complimenting the youthful orator on his brilliant talents, was particular in noticing him. "I recollect," said

said that statesman, "when Mr. Pitt made his *first* essay in the house; I recollect the just pride which we all felt to see him, much of the same age *then* that the noble lord (Petty) *now* is, distinguishing himself in hunting down corruption; in unmasking abuses in the public expenditure; in proposing and enforcing reforms of various kinds!"

Mr. Pitt dying on the 23d of January 1806, scarcely two days after the meeting of parliament, Lord Henry Petty's last proceeding, as a parliamentary antagonist of administration, was on the 21st of that month, when he moved the following amendment to the customary address to the throne:—"That this house feels the deepest concern at the series of disasters which have attended the arms of your majesty's allies on the continent, and will without delay proceed to enquire into the cause of such disasters, as far as they may be connected with the conduct of your majesty's ministers. This house is perfectly sensible, that the alarming and unexampled state of public affairs renders the most vigorous exertions necessary for the preservation of the empire; and we feel it our peculiar duty, when we call for these extraordinary efforts, to provide that the resources we furnish, and the powers we confer, may not in future be so employed as to increase the perils they were intended to avert, and to aggrandize that power to which it is the common interest of all Europe, as well as of Great Britain, to set proper limits."—His Lordship declined pressing this amendment, in consideration of Mr. Pitt's illness, pledging himself, however, to a future discussion of the subjects which it comprised. This discussion was rendered unnecessary by the death of Mr. Pitt, and by the new ministerial ar-

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rangements, which were finally settled at Buckingham-house, on Sunday the 2d of February.

A debate took place on the 27th of January, for awarding funereal honours to the memory of Mr. Pitt; but, neither in this debate, nor in that of February the 3d, did Lord Henry Petty take any share.

On the 5th of February, a new writ was moved for Calne, in the room of Lord Henry Petty, by Mr. Fox, his lordship having accepted the offices of chancellor and under-treasurer of his majesty's exchequer; and on the 12th of the same month he was sworn and took his seat, on his election to represent the university of Cambridge, in the room of Mr. Pitt. On the 17th of the month, the Right Hon. Charles James Fox, as secretary of state, and, on his re-election for Westminster, was introduced to the house of commons by Lord Henry Petty, and Mr. Whitbread. On the same day, Lord Henry gave his first official notice, that the house should adjourn for a week; and announced his resolution, at the expiration of that time, to move for the revival of the committee for investigating the joint account between Great Britain and Ireland.

On the 3d of March, a debate of considerable length took place on the constitutional propriety of Lord Ellenborough's holding a seat in the cabinet; when the new chancellor of the exchequer rose to rectify Mr. Canning as to a statement on the authority of the parliamentary reports, respecting the late Marquis of Lansdowne, for whose reputation he evinced a laudable and filial solicitude. Mr. Canning had stated, in support of his resistance to the practice of admitting the chief justice of the king's bench to a seat in the cabinet council, that, "Lord Mansfield, having sat in the

the cabinet, while lord chief justice, was thirteen years afterwards imputed to him as a charge, by the father of a noble lord opposite to him (Petty), and the question directly put to him, whether or not the thing was true?" This was contested by Lord Henry, who observed with peculiar effect, that the *correctness* of the publication, quoted by Mr. Canning, might, for various reasons, be disputed, particularly in giving an account of sentiments, where, in order to do justice to them, it was necessary to preserve the very words. "It was impossible," his lordship added, "that his noble and revered relation could be ignorant that Lord Mansfield had been a member of the cabinet; because, in point of fact, his noble relation had in the year 1763, when in the board of trade, been frequently summoned to cabinet councils, at which Lord Mansfield sat. That could be no discovery in the year 1775; and if he knew it, he could not have considered it unconstitutional, without, at the same time, expressing that opinion, which Lord Chatham and others, had they thought so, would likewise, in all probability, have done." He concluded, with defending the admissibility of Lord Ellenborough into the cabinet.

In supporting the motion for the trial of Lord Melville, by impeachment, in Westminster-Hall, on the 26th of March, "it will be my lot," said Lord Henry Petty, "and arduous will the lot be, to propose, in a few days, a large augmentation of the public burdens. If I may be allowed to feel more than any other man, the importance of convincing the public their money is rightly applied, and that their burdens should not be unnecessarily increased, it must be my anxious wish that

that every species of enquiry should take place, that they shall see their interests upheld."

Since the period, when Lord Henry Petty made the above *affecting* remarks, Lord Melville has enjoyed the exalted satisfaction of having been acquitted by his Peers, of all the charges alledged against him in the late impeachment; and, as the solemn decision of their lordships is above all suspicion, their verdict must be the source of much pleasure to every liberal mind. They only can experience chagrin at the termination of this business, whose principles are the offspring of party-feeling, and who are conscious of delight only when the measures of their favourites triumph. In the spirit of charity, however, we would fain *hope*, that the promoters of the late prosecution can yet repose in quiet, on the pleasing conviction that they have *done their duty*, and that they were actuated by honest motives, though, at present, in the language of Shakespeare, they are completely "*chop-fallen.*"

Lord Henry Petty, agreeably to his notice, brought forward his first budget on the 28th of March; the leading feature of which was the *Income Tax*, misnomered the *Property Tax*, suddenly advanced to *ten* per cent. Of this tax, his lordship declared, comparatively at least, and notwithstanding certain objections against it, that it was an equitable tax, to which the house were justified in resorting. We know not whether his lordship acquired his skill in logic in Lansdowne house, or in the university of Cambridge; but never, perhaps, were there more futile and contemptible arguments adduced, than those which were made use of by the promoters of the property tax. In our humble

humble opinion, the public, those in particular who have an influence in our corporate bodies, have been most reprehensibly inert, during the passage of this bill through its respective stages. To say that the operation of this bill will be found heavily oppressive on the middle ranks of society, or those with incomes, (especially *professional* ones,) from 150l. to 500l. a year, is to say little. To contend, that a man with an income of two or three hundred a year, derived from his own manual exertions, which must perish with him, and his family, perhaps, be reduced to beggary, is equally an object of taxation with a man whose income is derived from funded or landed property, is the very acmè of absurdity and injustice.—Lord Henry Petty ought to know, though it scarcely can be supposed that his *experience* can have taught him, that out of *small* incomes men have it not in their power to put by a provision for their wives or children. The tax will be an *income* tax in every sense of the word; but scarcely in any instance, correctly speaking, will it be a *property* tax.

It would have reflected infinitely more credit on our public and corporate bodies, on our *patriotic* men, had they convened meetings for considering of petitions, to be presented to the legislature, to prevent so obnoxious, so unjust a measure from passing into a law; than to have set the whole country together by the ears, in voting for impeachments, and in moving addresses of thanks for people who had never done any thing to deserve them. But, of many of those *deliberative assemblies*, it may in truth be exclaimed, *that they know not what they do!*

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Another of the new taxes proposed by Lord Henry Petty, was a duty on pig-iron, which, meeting with considerable opposition, was abandoned, and a tax upon private breweries was substituted in its place. This also has been abandoned, and, in lieu thereof, an additional *ten* per cent. is to be laid on the assessed taxes!

During the administrations of Mr. Pitt, when a measure happened to be opposed, that gentleman possessed the art, in a manner almost peculiar to himself, of tracing out all the possible objections, which could be started; and of even exhibiting them himself, in the most luminous point of view, for the purpose, if practicable, of overcoming them. Not so in the present day. The projected tax on iron was opposed, by those who were interested in the trade of the article; but whether the objections which were urged against it were tenable, the public have not had the means of judging. Suffice to say, that the measure was abandoned, and a tax upon private brewing, holding out an improper advantage to the public brewer, and pressing heavily on those who wished to obtain a wholesome and nutritious beverage, was proposed as a substitute. This tax, however obnoxious it might be, never met with any real opposition; yet in its turn it has been abandoned. The proposer too, if we are to accredit the parliamentary reports of the news-papers, complained heavily of misrepresentation; and protested that it was never his wish or intention to thrust excisemen into people's houses. Without pretending to any extraordinary portion of sagacity, we must confess that we never, from any representation that we have met with of his lordship's sentiments, ever understood,

or expected, that it was his wish, or intention, to exact the tax upon private brewing, by means of excisemen. We would not be willing to suppose him so very uninformed, so extremely inexperienced, so wholly unacquainted with financial proceedings, as not to be aware, that, while there is a possibility of collecting a tax, levied on principles of composition, it must be far less objectionable, and far more productive than to extort it through the medium of an exciseman. We were willing to give his lordship full credit for knowing that, to perform an additional duty in the excise, an additional number of excisemen must be requisite, and that, consequently, as they must receive salaries, the tax would be so much the less productive.

Howsoever severely an addition of ten per cent must be felt on the assessed taxes, it must still be admitted, that it will fall more equally than the proposed tax on private brewing. That was to affect only such persons as were liable to the assessed taxes; but as many of them did not brew their own beer, they, of course, could not be called upon for the new duty, and would consequently escape it.

A tax upon man-milliners has been frequently suggested; and on one of those evenings in which the proposed new taxes were discussed in the House of Commons, it was again proposed. We much regret that such a tax should not be formally brought forward, and carried into effect. It could not fail of producing much good. That this class of animals is exceedingly numerous, there can be no doubt, from the fact that, several years ago, when O'Keefe's farce of *The Man Milliner* was brought forward, a body of them assembled

bled, and, *by a most formidable opposition*, actually drove it from the stage. A tax upon them, we are convinced, would be highly salutary; it would obviate the necessity of some other tax; it would materially facilitate the recruiting service; and would open a channel for the employment of many females, who, from necessity, are compelled to adopt a less reputable mode of life. It would also materially improve the morality of the younger part of the female world; and, from the admirers of delicacy, virtue, and honor, in the fair sex, it ought to meet with every support. We know it to be a fact, that many young women——perhaps we ought to have said *ladies*——highly respectable in their families and connections, are in the constant habit of *shopping*, as they term it, for trifles, for the sole purpose of listening to these empty beardless coxcombs. Fathers of families will perceive the justice of these remarks, and, as the morality of our women has an extensive influence on the morality of the nation at large, they cannot be unworthy of attention.

In his speech on opening the budget, Lord Henry Petty observed, that steps were taking to recover the sums lost to the public by malversations in the West Indies, and that measures had been adopted to put a stop to those scenes of fraud, perjury, and peculation, which had so long prevailed.

Agreeably to the above notice, his lordship, on the 21st of May, obtained leave to bring in a bill, for the more effectual examination of the public accounts, and the better preventing of frauds in the West Indies. This motion, or rather the remarks by which it was prefaced, excited a degree of astonishment, and even consternation,

consternation, of which they must have been wholly incapable, had the subject been understood by the public. According to his lordship's statement, the gross amount of the sums unaccounted for, was, *four hundred and fifty millions sterling!* It was immediately considered, that this immense sum was actually deficient; and, while some were pouring their merciless maledictions on Government contractors, and deploring the ruin of their country, as drained of its vital sources by those remorseless leeches, others indulged themselves in more enlivening ideas, and congratulated themselves, that, by the aid of declaratory bills, impeachments, &c. the defaulters might be brought to disgorge their unhallowed plunder; and that, as the country would thus recover 455,000,000*l*, a snm exceeding the national debt, our new taxes would be all swept away, and be, "as though they had never been." Alas! this hope was too delightful to be realized. It vanished like a fairy dream, and left the slumberer to awake, and gaze upon a prospect, chill, dreary, and repulsive!

We have not so exalted an opinion of the *honour* and *honesty* of contractors, &c. as to suppose that much of the above money has not been taken from the public; but, instead of there being a *deficiency*, to the amount stated, the accounts of these monies are merely *unaudited*. The fact, however, of such enormous sums remaining unaudited, reflects an infinite portion of discredit on the administration of this country for the last twenty years.

The case of Mr. Trotter, the army-contractor, alluded to by his lordship on this occasion, is an exceedingly curious one. He stated that, through the hands

hands of that gentleman, not less than 700,000*l.* of the public money had passed without any check or controul. He had engrossed to himself almost every department. He was manufacturer of the public stores, purveyor of those manufactures, and comptroller as well as auditor of his own accounts. In all these relations did Mr. Trotter stand to the public; and for auditing his accounts, made a charge beside of ten per cent. in addition to all his other profits.

Mr. Rose, on a subsequent evening, entered into a defence of Mr. Trotter, charging the Chancellor of the Exchequer with bringing forward his name for the sake of *stage effect*. "In consequence," he said, "of the demand for the stores provided by Mr. Trotter, the then secretary of the War Department arranged that he should deliver up an accurate account of what the things cost, and that he should be allowed ten per cent. upon the whole. This ten per cent. included not only the mercantile profit, but the fair expenditure for which he had no allowance whatever."

The reply of Lord Henry Petty, to Mr. Trotter, exhibits a striking illustration of the gross and palpable neglect of former administrations, with respect to the public accounts. "*It was not the fault of Mr. Trotter,*" he said, "*or of any other tradesman, to avail himself of his situation.* He understood that all the articles furnished by Mr. Trotter were good. He had stated only that his accounts were not audited, and that he had ten per cent. beyond his fair profit. Since the Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Rose) called on him to say all he knew, he would assert *that Mr. Trotter made two other charges of five per cent. each, amounting in the whole to twenty per cent.* HE WAS RIGHT.

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He would not have been to blame to have taken fifty per cent. if he could have got it."

Lord Henry Petty, notwithstanding his hesitations, and vacillations; and notwithstanding his affectation of patriotism—an affectation which distinguishes the whole of his party—is a young man of very promising talents; though perhaps better adapted to make a figure as an opposition member of parliament, than as a cabinet minister.

Unlike Shenstone the poet, his lordship cannot bless his kind stars that his name is not obnoxious to the spirit of punning; for, ever since he has been in office, the opposition wits have found it an abundant source of pleasantry. Some of the newspapers, indeed, appear to have an invincible aversion from every thing that is *Petty*. The following lines, written in answer to some verses, under a female signature, ridiculing Lord Henry Petty for his skill in dancing, form, perhaps, one of the happiest effusions of this nature which have appeared :—

"Why so severe, thou scribbling fair,
A Statesman's *trips* to note ?—
Allow him of thy sports a share,
They suit the *Petty*-coat !"

LORD BRIDPORT.

IN tracing the life of an illustrious hero, whose fame has been brightened by patriotism, the heart of the reader is enlarged by gratitude and admiration. And since he who is instrumental to the advancement of our national prosperity, and he who defends that prosperity, is equally entitled to our veneration, surely a British admiral, grown old in the service of his country, cannot fail to excite in a British heart the warmest affection and the strongest interest.

Alexander Hood (Lord Bridport) is the younger son of the Rev. Mr. Hood, many years vicar of Burleigh, in Somersetshire, and afterwards of Thorncombe, in Devonshire. He is likewise the brother of Lord Viscount Hood, to whom he is senior in point of rank, having been made post-captain six weeks before him, although the other had preceded him, as a lieutenant, about six months.

He received his principal education under the immediate care of his father, and, at an early age, entered into the service, with but little hopes of future promotion, farther than what should be obtained by his own diligence and good conduct.

It is not until a considerable time after he had quitted his paternal roof, and had gone through the first

gradations of his profession, that we obtain any particulars of his career. On the 2d of December, 1746, he was made lieutenant by Admiral Smith; and being afterwards raised to the rank of commander, he was, on the 10th of June, 1756, made post-captain in the Prince George, of 90 guns.

In the year 1758, Captain Hood served in the Mediterranean, on board the St. George, of 90 guns, Rear-Admiral Saunders, which ship formed a part of the fleet commanded by Admiral Osborne. He was, therefore, present in this squadron when M. du Quesne attempted to reinforce M. de la Clue, then blocked up in the harbour of Carthagena. His ship, however, did not engage; the action being sustained only by those who were detached from their stations to chase.

Captain Hood, most probably, returned from the Mediterranean with Rear-Admiral Saunders; who, on being relieved by Admiral Broderick, sailed for England in the Montague, on the 5th of July. The time, though short, which our hero spent under Admiral Saunders, must have doubtless proved very advantageous to him, from the superior character of that officer, who had seen such a variety of service, and who particularly felt the benefit of employing his hours of relaxation from his professional duty in the confidential intercourse of learned men.

Soon after his arrival in England he was appointed to the Minerva frigate, of 32 guns. At this time the English shores were threatened by a powerful and long meditated French invasion; which, however, the skill and gallantry of our nautical defenders rendered, as we trust they ever will render such efforts, abortive. While the French were exulting all over Europe, that

the English navy, owing to its dispersion on different stations, would not be able to have a fleet in the channel equal to cope with that of theirs in Brest harbour, Sir Edward Hawke sailed from Spithead, to their great dismay, with twenty-five sail of the line, thirteen frigates, in which the Minerva, Captain Hood, was included, and two fire-ships. During the greater part of this year Captain Hood served under Commodore Duff, who relieved Captain Reynolds in blocking up the French transports in the Morbihan. He also captured the Ecureiul, a Bayonne privateer, of 14 guns, and one hundred and twenty-two men, but attained no additional renown till the year 1761, when, by returning to his country a ship whose capture had afforded no little boasting on the side of the enemy, his former honours were advanced, and he stood conspicuous to his country as a brave and meritorious officer.

On the 23d of January, in latitude 45 deg. 22 min. N. Cape Pinas, bearing S. by E. distant thirty leagues, a large sail was discerned from the Minerva, soon after day-break. Captain Hood immediately gave orders to chase, and soon found his antagonist to be a ship of two decks. She was the Warwick, pierced for 60 guns, but now mounting 34, which had been taken from the English, commanded by M. Le Verger de Belair. Her crew amounted to about three hundred men, including a company of soldiers, intended to reinforce the garrison of Pondicherry. The wind blowing hard from the east, with a great sea, it was nearly twenty minutes past ten before the Minerva came up with her, when Captain Hood, notwithstanding her superior force, ran alongside, and began an engage-

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ment which the French navy will never forget. The fire on both sides was terrible. "At eleven," says the English hero, in his letter to the admiralty, "her main and foretop-mast went away, and soon after she came on board us on the starboard bow, and then fell alongside; but the sea soon parted us, when the enemy fell astern. About a quarter after eleven the Minerva's bowsprit went away, and the foremast soon followed it. These were very unfortunate circumstances, and I almost despaired of being able to attack the enemy again; however, I cut the wreck away as soon as possible, and, about one o'clock, cleared the ship of it, with the loss of one man, and the sheet-anchor. I then wore the ship, and stood for the enemy, who was about three leagues to leeward of us. At four o'clock I came up close with the enemy, and renewed the attack: about a quarter before five she struck; when I found she had fourteen killed, and thirty-two wounded. Our numbers are, the boatswain and thirteen killed, and the gunner and thirty-three wounded; the former died on the 27th, and two seamen. I have given my thanks to the officers and crew of his Majesty's ship, for their firm and spirited behaviour; and I have great pleasure in acquainting their lordships with it. At nine o'clock the main-mast of the Minerva went way, at eleven the mizen-mast followed it."—Captain Hood conveyed his prize in safety to Spithead; and on the 8th of February, being introduced by Lord Anson to his Majesty, received the royal thanks and acknowledgment of his conduct.

We believe it was prior to the above transaction that Captain Hood married Miss West, daughter of the Rev. Dr. West, and niece to the late Viscount Cob-

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ham. By this marriage he became related to the Pitt and Lyttleton families. Miss West had a considerable fortune, and Captain Hood's conduct, with regard to it, was in perfect conformity to the generosity of a British sailor. He insisted that the whole should be immediately settled upon her, and be entirely independent of himself.

Captain Hood had now, by his own merit, attained an eminence in the public favour, and his country began to look upon him as one destined to advance its glory. In August, 1761, he was appointed to form part of the squadron destined to bring the Princess Charlotte, of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz, to England. He accordingly rendezvoused off Harwich on the 6th, and the signal being made by Lord Anson, on board the Royal Charlotte yacht, for sailing, in the evening of the 7th the whole squadron got under weigh. On the 14th the Minerva anchored at the Red Buoy, about seven leagues from Cuxhaven, with the Nottingham, Winchester, and Tartar; while the yachts went up the Elbe, and waited at Stade for the princess, who arrived there the next day. About noon, on the 6th of September, her royal highness landed at Harwich.

At the conclusion of the year 1761, Captain Hood was appointed to the Africa, a third rate, of 64 guns, and just launched new from the stocks. A rupture with Spain appearing about this juncture unavoidable, Sir Piercy Brett was sent out to reinforce Sir Charles Saunders in the Mediterranean, with a strong detachment; and the Africa being ordered to join him, Captain Hood again returned to his old and approving commander.

The French nation finding that England opposed

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nothing but bravery and undaunted resolution to the threats which they held out, thought proper to adopt pacific sentiments, which terminated in a definitive treaty of peace, signed at Paris, February, 1763. In consequence of this our different squadrons returned home, and Captain Hood obtained the Thunderer guard-ship, 74 guns, at Portsmouth.

In 1766, he succeeded Sir Charles Saunders, as treasurer of Greenwich Hospital.

War having again broken out with France, he, on the 8th of June, 1778, sailed with Admiral Keppel's fleet, consisting of twenty-one sail of the line, three frigates, two armed cutters, and one fire-ship. Captain Hood commanded the Robust, of 74 guns. On the 27th of the following month they fell in with the Brest fleet, consisting of thirty-two sail, five frigates, and five gondolas, commanded by the Count d'Orvilliers in chief. Count Duchaffault the second, and the Duke de Chartres the third in command. The French commenced firing upon the headmost of Vice-Admiral Sir Robert Harland's division, and the ship with him. The wind continued to blow in the N. W. and. S. W. sometimes very strong, and the enemy keeping to windward going off. Being on different tacks, the fleets passed very near each other, and towards the close of the day the enemy formed their fleet again. This, Admiral Keppel says, he did not discourage, thinking they intended handsomely to try their force with him next morning. He was, however, mistaken; for, under advantage of the night they made their escape. Captain Hood was stationed in the line, in the blue division, as second to Sir Hugh Palliser. The Robust, on the morning of the 27th, had been ordered,

with some other ships, to chase to windward. During the subsequent action she was severely handled by the enemy, her rigging being greatly mangled; besides which, she had about fourteen shots under water, one of which being a forty-eight pounder, rendered her situation truly dangerous, as the water gained on her very fast, and it was eight o'clock in the evening before they succeeded in stopping the leak. But although she was so much damaged, she was fought in so able a style, that Captain Hood had only five men killed and seventeen wounded. Our hero returned with the fleet, and remained at home till he obtained his flag.

The country is too well acquainted with the lamented contest which the above action gave rise to, to need any comment upon it here. In consequence of different opinions, and of the insidious conduct of false and officious friends, England saw two of her most distinguished heroes turned from friendship to bitter enmity. Sir Hugh Paliser preferred a charge against the veteran Keppel, which, however, terminated in the most honourable acquittal of the latter.

Captain Hood having now obtained the eminence which he deserved, on the 26th of September, 1780, was appointed rear-admiral of the white, in which honourable station he was soon called to the services of his country. On the death of that gallant officer, Rear-Admiral Kempenfelt, while Lord Keppel presided at the admiralty board, Admiral Hood was brought forward. Having hoisted his flag on board the Queen, of 90 guns, he was appointed, in 1782, to command the second, or larboard division, of the centre squadron, in the fleet sent under the command of Lord Howe, to relieve Gibraltar. On the 19th of October, Lord

Lord Howe had taken the advantage of the wind to repass the Straits to the westward, which he effected, followed by the enemy. The wind changing next morning to the westward, the combined fleets, consisting of forty-five, or forty-six, ships of the line, still retained the advantage of the wind. The British fleet formed to leeward to receive them, and they were left, uninterruptedly, to take the distance at which they should think fit to engage. The action began in the evening. The French commenced their cannonade about sun-set, on the van and rear, and continued it along their whole line, at a considerable distance, and with little effect, until ten at night. It was returned occasionally by different ships, as the near approach of the enemy gave an opportunity of making any impression upon them. The enemy, however, hauled their wind, and the British fleet keeping on all night, in full sail, the fleets were separated.

On the return of the British fleet to England, Admiral Hood was introduced to the king by Lord Keppel. It was in this year that he lost his lady, who died at his seat of Cricket Lodge, in the month of September.

On the 20th January, 1783, the preliminary articles of peace were signed at Versailles, both with the French and Spanish plenipotentiaries. At this time Admiral Hood was second in command at Portsmouth. The year following he was chosen member of parliament for the borough of Bridgwater; and, on the 7th of May, 1788, was invested with the most honourable order of the Bath. On the 26th of June, in the same year, he re-married. The lady whom he espoused was Miss

Miss Bray, only daughter of the late Thomas Bray, Esq. of Edmonton.

A rupture with Spain being again apprehended, several ships were put into commission on the 12th of May, 1790, among which was the London, of 98 guns, on board of which Admiral Hood's flag was at first hoisted. On the month preceding this, he had kissed hands on being appointed rear-admiral of Great Britain, on the death of Vice-Admiral Darby. On the 4th of July he commanded the van division of Admiral Barrington's fleet, at Torbay, with his flag, as vice-admiral of the blue, on board the Victory, 100 guns, Captain Knight. But an express arriving at Portsmouth, to fit out immediately, for foreign service, four sail of the line and two frigates, and for Sir Alexander Hood to take the command of them, he shifted his flag to the Royal Sovereign. The subsequent conduct, however, of Spain, prevented this and other formidable preparations from reaching their intended destinations.

On the 1st of February, 1793, Sir Alexander Hood was made vice-admiral of the red; and, during this year, his flag continued on board the Royal George, with a command under Earl Howe in the western squadron. Promotion and honour still hovered over his career; for in the year following he was advanced to the rank of admiral of the blue. He particularly distinguished himself on the memorable 1st of June, 1794, and the preceding days. His ship, the Royal George, commenced the action on the 29th of May, and during that, and on the 1st of June, was exposed to an incessant and brisk cannonade; the terrors of which were augmented by the means employed by the enemy

enemy to give an unusual degree of destruction to the artillery of death. During the whole of this action Sir Alexander displayed the greatest skill and intrepidity. The fore-mast, with the main-top-mast of his ship were shot away. She had twenty men killed and seventy-two wounded. On his return, with the other flag-officers and captains of this renowned fleet, he was presented with the gold chain and medal, and was afterwards created, by patent, bearing date August the 12th ensuing, Baron Bridport, of Cricket St. Thomas, with remainder to Samuel Hood, Esq. second son, and every other son, or sons, born after him, of Henry Hood, Esq. of Catherington, in the county of Southampton.

The above signal defeat rendered the enemy incompetent to muster any considerable force, or to undertake any enterprize worthy of note, during the remainder of that year.

In the ensuing summer, Lord Bridport commanded a stout squadron, consisting of fourteen sail of the line, five frigates, two fire-ships, one hospital ship, and a lugger, with which he was ordered to cruize off the coast of France, for the purpose of watching the enemy's ports, and of attacking any squadron that might put to sea.

His lordship sailed from Spithead on the 13th June, and fortune soon led her favourite to an action, that terminated in his glory. On the 22d of the same month, being in latitude 47 deg. 4 min. N. longitude 4 deg. 16 min. W. Bell Isle, bearing E. by N. half N. fourteen leagues, the frigates made signal for a strange fleet, which was soon discovered to be French. They were then right a head, but the wind shifting in their favour,

favour, brought them on the weather bow of the English. But as they discovered no sign of giving battle, Lord Bridport made signal for four of the best sailing vessels to chase; which continued all that day, and during the night, with very little wind. He, however, brought them to action a little before six on the following morning, and that so close to the French coast, that the pilot on board the Royal George refused to proceed any further; upon which Lord Bridport took charge of the ship himself. The British squadron was also close in with some batteries, and in the face of a strong naval port, (L'Orient). Lord Bridport had fourteen sail of the line, opposed to twelve of the enemy and two razées of56 guns; and five English frigates to eleven of the French. After a well fought and glorious action, his lordship captured Le Formidable, of 74 guns; Le Tigre, of 80; and the Alexander, of 74. The rest of the enemy's fleet made their escape into L'Orient. The contest had been very fierce; the French firing red hot balls, and very high, doing great damage to the rigging. During the action we had but one man killed; two more died afterwards of their wounds. The French suffered greatly in their loss of men. The Tigre alone having three hundred killed and wounded, and the rest in proportion. Those only, who know the peculiar danger of the French coast, can properly appreciate the great valour of such an action as the above.

On the 15th of March, 1796, Lord Bridport succeeded Earl Howe in the civil office of vice-admiral of Great Britain. On the 31st of May following he was advanced to the dignity of a British peer, by the same style and title he had before held in Ireland; and in

1797,

1797, on the resignation of Lord Howe, he took the chief command of the channel fleet, the arduous and fatiguing task of which can only be known to those who have shared in it.

His lordship, we believe, learned the rudiments of his profession under the patronage of Admiral Smith. Lord Bridport has been exceeded by few, either in his professional duty or in his private life. Those who have served under his command, while they admire him as an officer, revere him as a father. The following character of him, which appeared in a work entitled—"Suffrages of Vortigern and Rowena," is no less just than beautiful—

"That sturdie son of Neptune doth mine humour suite right well: where'er his streamers flie, they so be-lord it o'er the element of waters, that not a single Gallique barque will he permit to ride in suretie in it. —Roughe as the blowinge tempest of the north is he afloate; but when on shore, the milder influences prevail againe, and swaye his mind to calm urbanite!"

His lordship is now admiral of the red squadron; but has not been called into action for some time. Having shared largely of the honours of war, he now stands by to behold with applause the aspiring adventures of younger heroes; and when he shall be dismantled of mortality, he will long ride triumphant in the memory of his country.

MR. CHARLES INCLEDON.

THE life of a public singer, particularly of a successful one, of one whose chief career has been at the Theatres Royal, can scarcely be expected to abound in incident. Mr. Incledon, the immediate subject of this sketch, has attained nearly the height of his profession, and is universally admired.

This gentleman is a native of Cornwall, where his father was a respectable physician; but, whether he disdained physic, or from the difficulty of providing for a numerous family, he was, at the age of eight years articled to Mr. Jackson, of Exeter, whose musical compositions are so justly admired. Young Incledon's voice very soon became the subject of great admiration, and under so good a tutor, we need not be surprised if the rapid progress he made in the science, rendered him caressed at all the concerts and musical parties at which he attended. At the end of six or seven years, however, and notwithstanding his having gone through a tolerable course of musical education, the *amor patriæ* rose in his bosom, and longing to exchange the lyre of Apollo, for the rude surges of Neptune, he, in the year 1779, entered into his Majesty's service on board the Formidable.

Mr.

Mr. Incledon went to the West Indies, continued for two years in the navy, was in several engagements; and, as a song is one of the most acceptable treats to a sailor, his vocal powers were held in high estimation by his shipmates, and his increasing reputation soon obtained for him the particular notice of the chief officers in the fleet. Aware of the precariousness of naval promotion, and anxious to place himself in a sphere where his powers would be most serviceable to himself, his friends persuaded him to return to England, and to venture his reputation on the stage. From Lord Mulgrave, from Admiral Pigot, and from other respectable officers, he obtained letters of introduction to the late Mr. Colman. That gentleman, we believe, received him with his accustomed urbanity, in the summer of the year 1782; but, notwithstanding the exalted praise which Mr. Incledon had received from his naval patrons, he could not obtain an opportunity of charming the gods at the Hay-market.

His determination, however, was fixed. Resolved to attempt a profession which he had been so frequently urged to adopt, and in which he had for some time thought himself capable of succeeding, he joined Collins's Company, at Southampton, where, by the "*moving melody* of his voice," he had the good fortune to obtain an engagement with that manager. Alphonso, in the Castle of Andalusia, was the character which he chose for his *debut*, and in which he was received with the most flattering approbation.

When we revert to the successive years of toil, of hardship, and of penury, which many of the votaries of the stage pass through, in their progress to the temple

of Fame and Emolument, we cannot but consider Mr. Incledon as one of Fortune's supreme favorites. He had not been, we believe, above a year in Collins's company, in which, of course, he experienced a certain portion of the difficulties which are usually encountered by strolling players, when the fame of his abilities reaching Bath, he was engaged by the manager in that city, the nursery of the London stage.

For this engagement, Mr. Incledon was indebted alone to his musical talents; for his abilities, as an actor were not much valued; and some little disappointment which he had occasionally met with, discouraged him from displaying with the necessary confidence, the acquirements he had made in the science of music under Jackson, his first master: notwithstanding the excellence and volume of his voice, he was still regarded as little better than a chorus-singer, and was obliged to personate the most trivial and even disagreeable characters. The amateurs of Bath, however, soon discovered his value. Rauzzini, the conductor of the concerts in that city, who, as a teacher, a composer, or as a man of exquisite taste, has few equals, one evening in a song between the acts, perceived Incledon's great natural powers, and that he possessed a tolerable knowledge in music. He immediately took him under his care, and gave him the best instructions which a pupil could receive. Mr. Incledon afterwards sung at the concerts in Bath and Bristol with great applause; and, in the succeeding summer was engaged at Vauxhall, London, where his success was still more flattering. Thus, in a few months, Rauzzini's patronage brought him from obscurity into universal estimation. —His presence was now courted by every company, he

was

was the favorite at the noblemens catch-club in Bath, which he assisted in establishing; and Dr. Harrington, the most eminent physician there, a gentleman of great musical genius, became his particular friend. In the course of six or seven years, he became a complete proficient in music, and favorite on the stage; notwithstanding which, though he was almost worshipped by all ranks for his abilities he was never, during his stay at Bath, brought so forward at that theatre as might have been expected. Mr. Wordsworth, who performed some seasons ago at Sadler's Wells, occupied the first walk in Bath; and Mr. Incledon was obliged to content himself with the second.

In the month of October, 1790, having obtained an engagement at Covent Garden Theatre, Mr. Incledon made his first appearance there, as *Dermot*, in O'Keefe's farce of *The Poor Soldier*. The reception he met with was highly gratifying; yet it should be mentioned, that the circumstance of his having been a Vauxhall singer operated very much against him in the public mind. Vauxhall had long been notorious for vulgar songs and for vulgar singers; though candour ought to admit, that, in such a place, where the concave of heaven is the only sounding-board, and where a strength of lungs is the only requisite which a vocal performer can hope to avail himself of with success, every allowance ought to be made in his favor. While only the most boisterous roarings of Bacchus or of Mars can reach the ears of the distant part of the throng, every effusion relating to the softer emotions of our nature, every delicacy and refinement of musical science must evaporate into "thin air." It might be thought, perhaps, that Mr. Incledon's voice, which possesses such extraordinary

force and fulness, might have been heard with advantage, even at Vauxhall; yet, in consequence of the vulgar prejudice, he, in common with other singers, had never been listened to with attention. In the theatre, however, it was very different; for there it was immediately discovered, that, with considerable science, Mr. Incledon united great pathos, taste, and execution. But notwithstanding the talents which he evinced, and the admiration he excited, owing to the intricate and unjust regulations of the theatre, a great length of time elapsed, before he was brought into a line of characters adequate to his powers.

Mr. Incledon continued to advance in his profession, and to gain upon the estimation of the public, until the year 1798, when he objected to sing in pantomime. The manager, however, peremptorily insisted that he should either leave the theatre or comply, and, taking prudence for his guide, he consented to amuse the admirers of dumb show. Indeed, however highly we may estimate Mr. Incledon's vocal skill, we cannot but consider it as a ridiculous piece of affectation in him, or any other *singer*, to refuse to perform in pantomime or *spectacle*. The case is very different with an *actor* (by which we would be understood to mean a tragic or a comic performer) whose proper powers would be almost intirely prevented from producing that effect, in pantomime, which they might in oral parts. A singer, on the other hand, is equally interesting and impressive in the pantomimic pieces, which, of late years, have been produced, as in opera, his legitimate line of exhibition. In consequence of this disagreement, however, it is by no means surprising that we find Mr. Incledon's name as one of the "*glorious eight*," who in the

the season of 1800, resisted certain projected innovations of the managers. A statement upon the subject was drawn up, signed, and published by the following performers:——Holman, Johnstone, Fawcett, Pope, King, H. Johnston, Munden, Incledon. "The ground of difference," says the *Thespian Dictionary*, a respectable little work to which we are indebted for some particulars of this memoir, "rested principally upon the proprietors depriving their performers of the customary orders of admission—in enlarging the fine of five pounds for refusing a character, to thirty pounds—and in raising the charge of a benefit from one hundred and forty pounds, to one hundred and sixty pounds. The proprietors contended, that orders had ever been held as a gratuitous indulgence and that they had never been allowed but with the special leave of the managers: that, with respect to the fine for refusing characters, much disgust had been given to authors, and much injury done to the property by the rejection of such characters; and that on the subject of increasing the amount of the benefit charge, they were perfectly authorised in that proceeding, by the increase of the night expences of the theatre, which the testimony of the treasurer proposed to be substantiated by affidavit, estimated at more than one hundred and sixty pounds. The performers observed in answer, that orders had not been held by any gratuitous indulgence, but by an established privilege, for which they referred to a former declaration of the manager: that the advance of the fine from five pounds to thirty pounds, gave to the managers the power of depressing and degrading professional talents, and of extorting from the first actor of the theatre, (by that main engine of oppression) the whole

whole of his salary; and that the benefit-charge had experienced an advance, in the course of twenty years (for it was only sixty-four pounds five shillings, in 1780) of ninety-five pounds, fifteen shillings. With respect to the first complaint, it must be acknowledged that orders are at the option of the manager, but when orders are promiscuously issued (being at times of as much service to the proprietors as to the performers) surely the performers have *some* claim to that indulgence; of course they had *some* reason to complain, for they had been denied that indulgence though the house had been frequently filled with them. The second was certainly a serious complaint; for though managers might say, that many good characters have been rejected by actors of inferior abilities, this was no argument for compelling performers to hazard their reputation: every actor should be the guardian of his own fame, and never attempt a part, or at least repeat it, which was either beneath him, or to which he was inadequate——Garrick could never have attained that honor he had acquired, had he been subject to such arbitrary measures. He not only *resigned* but *rejected* characters, and, doubtless, it is owing to this managerial despotism that we too often see many actors and actresses of abilities rendering themselves ridiculous on London boards! The third complaint has *some* grounds when we consider that performers have not the same opportunity (by orders) of making friends as before; and when we also consider that the additional expences have been incurred by the managers themselves, who have thought proper to rebuild, enlarge, and add to the exterior ornaments of the winter theatres. Why, it may be asked, should the performers

pay

pay for their caprice and whims, especially as the public pay additional prices of admission to the boxes and pit? When the benefit-charges were only sixty-four pounds five shillings, it is well known that a performer derived more profit from his *nights* than he generally does now, even though the winter theatres be thrice as large: and it is also well known that many a distinguished performer at present has no more and sometimes less than the charges and cursory expences, so that, in fact, he has solicited the services of his friends not for his own, but for the benefit of the managers! This disagreement was left (by mutual consent) to the Lord Chamberlain for decision. His Lordship wished to have declined the office of arbitrator, but gave at last his opinion in favor of the proprietors, recommending, at the same time, an amicable adjustment and oblivion of the past. The complaints of course were dropped, and the performers reinstated, except Mr. Holman, who either was not offered or would not except of a re-engagement."*

* We are not in possession of an exact estimate of the sum of money which may be received at Covent-Garden Theatre, when the house is full; but from the following statement, which may be relied on as correct, in men and money, of the audience part of Drury-Lane Theatre, it will be seen that the benefit of an actor even when subjected to the high expences above stated, must be something more than "Leather and Prunella."

No.		Ls	s.	d.
1828	Persons, Boxes, 6s. each..........	548	8	0
800	Ditto, Pit, 3s. 6d. each..........	140	0	0
675	Ditto, Gallery, 2s. each..........	67	10	0
308	Ditto, Ditto, 1s. each..........	17	8	0
3611		773	6	0

We must here be permitted to observe, that, all circumstances considered, actors, are in general much better compensated for their exertions than dramatic authors. They are engaged at a regular, frequently at an enormous salary, and consequently incur no risk; while the poet who may have been employed for many months on a dramatic piece, may have the ill-fortune to find it irrevocably damned as soon as it appears; and should it succeed he only comes into the possession of a few hundreds of pounds, without any prospect of future advantage from the offspring of his muse. They certainly *manage these things better in France*; "for," says Kotzebue, the German writer, "the author of a dramatic piece, or of the music belonging to it, is treated there in the following manner:—Every night's receipts are divided into three parts, of which the author receives a seventh out of one third. This, however, would be doing but little for them, but they receive this seventh part not once, but as long as they live, and their heirs ten years after their death; they receive it not only in Paris, but all over France, and from every theatre, and this not merely while the piece remains in manuscript, but long after it has been printed; for no manager of a theatre in Paris must have it acted without the express permission of the author; the piratical printing of a piece is likewise subjected to heavy penalties:—Many will object to the possibility of an author's being often deceived, as he neither can know or be informed of the pieces played all over France, and of the frequency and amount of the receipts of the different houses, it being extremely expensive to collect information of this kind:—All this has,

has, however, been provided for; there exists an office in Paris, established for the purpose; here the author of any dramatic production need but mention his name, and the officer takes care of the rest.—The office has its correspondents and cashiers all over the country, and, with a clear conscience, accounts to the author for all the shares of his profit, for the moderate allowance of two *per cent.*—Madame Molé, who translated *Misanthropy* and *Repentance*, rather in an awkward way, is already in possession of a property of 60,000 livres, and even now this comedy is frequently performed three times a day, in the different theatres in Paris. To *me*, its author, the sum total brought by this piece never exceeded two hundred German dollars!!!"

Mr. Incledon having resumed his situation, at Covent-Garden theatre, has remained there to the present time; and since that period, we believe, has obtained a very high advance of salary.

In the summer of 1803, he visited Dublin, and on his return to England was wrecked in passing the bar; several of the passengers were lost: he saved himself by climbing to the round top, with his wife lashed to him, in which perilous condition he was several hours, till at length delivered by some fishermen who saw their distress from shore. After his return to Dublin, he again advertised his entertainment with the addition of "The Storm,"

The subject of this sketch has been twice married: by his first wife he has several children living, on whom he made a settlement of all that he possessed previous to his second marriage, which took place

soon after that paternal act, with Miss Howell at Bath.

Mr. Incledon's extraordinary talents have been acknowledged in every part of the united kingdom; the certainty of his attraction having induced the proprietors of almost every theatre in the country to make him advantageous proposals; and as the public appetite seemed to grow by what it fed upon, his engagements have proved uniformly satisfactory and profitable to all the parties concerned.

Within these few years he has repeatedly visited Plymouth, Exeter, and other provincial towns, where he has entertained the residents at those places with a solo entertainment called "The Wandering Melodist;" but, in the summer of 1805, if our recollection be correct, Mrs. Mountain accompanied him on his country excursion, and of course added materially to the interest and effect of his vocal melody.

Mr. Incledon, as an actor, has very slight pretensions to notice; but in the ballad style of singing, he is considered as standing unrivalled in his profession. His *Young William*, (melodized by himself) his *Admiral Benbow*, *Black-eyed Susan*, and other songs of that description, will never be forgotten by those who have once heard them. His *Storm* is a masterly and astonishing performance, and his style is so perfectly expressive of the horrors of a tempest, and the confusion and despair of the sufferers, that, independant of the amazement excited by the vast power and flexibility of voice which he displays in this difficult undertaking, the effect on the audience is always as strong as any impression produced by the finest

piece of *acting*. *Old Towler* is another of those efforts which have delighted the public in a degree beyond all precedent and comparison surprising.—— Among the more recent songs in which he particularly excels may be mentioned *The Thorn*, the music of which is composed by Shield; and, in the duetto of *Gond night, all's well*, he always fairly divided the applause with Braham.

BEILBY PORTEUS, D.D.

LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.

THE biographer of living characters labours under a task peculiarly delicate. However impartial he may wish to be, however unbiassed in judgment and in principle, he still finds himself obliged to keep too tight a hand upon the reins of censure; and, from an apprehension of being deemed fastidious, he finds it difficult to dispense praise unmixed with flattery. But sweet is his relief, when he has to set forth the character of one where praise united with justice ever lights upon desert.

The subject of the present memoir is a native of Yorkshire, and was born in the year 1731. His father was a reputable tradesman, who at an early age sent his son to the Rippon grammar-school, under the Rev. Mr. Hyde. Having here received the necessary preparation, he was, at the proper age, sent to Cambridge, where he was entered a student of Christ's college. Here he commenced a close application to his studies, particularly to those of the sacred order, for which he, from the earliest period, had felt a strong propensity, and in which he so conspicuously shines.

In 1752, he took his degree of B. A. and in the same year obtained one of the medals given for the best

best classical essay, by the Duke of Newcastle, at that time chancellor of the university. His next advancement was in 1754, when he was appointed one of the esquire beadles of the university. This office he resigned in July 1755, and, in the same year, took his degree of master of arts. About the same period he was also elected fellow of his college, and was appointed one of the preachers at Whitehall chapel.

In the year 1759, he gained the Seatonian prize for the best composition on Death. This being the only poem of his that ever appeared in print, excepting a few verses on the late king, the reader will, doubtless, be glad to meet with the following extract from it, which is the concluding prayer of the poet.

"At thy good time,
Let death approach; I reck not—let him come
In genuine form, not with thy vengeance arm'd,
Too much for man to bear. O rather lend
Thy kindly aid to mitigate his stroke,
And at that hour, when all aghast I stand
(A trembling candidate for thy compassion)
On this world's brink, and look into the next;
When my soul, starting from the dark unknown,
Casts back a wishful look, and fondly clings
To her frail prop, unwilling to be wrench'd
From this fair scene, from all her 'custom'd joys,
And all the lovely relatives of life,
Then shed thy comforts o'er me; then put on
The gentlest of thy looks—Let no dark crimes,
In all their hideous forms then starting up,
Plant themselves round my couch in grim array,
And stab my bleeding heart with two-edg'd torture—
Sense of past guilt, and dread of future woe.
"Far be the ghastly crew!—and in their stead,
Let cheerful memory, from her purest cells,

Lead

Lead forth a gooldy train of virtues fair,
Cherish'd in earliest youth, now paying back,
With tenfold usury, the pious care;
And pouring o'er my wounds the heav'nly balm
Of conscious innocence. But chiefly Thou,
Whom soft-ey'd Pity once led down from heav'n
To bleed for men--to teach him how to live;
And, Oh!—still harder lesson!—how to die;
Disdain not thou to smooth the restless bed
Of sickness and of pain, Forgive the tear
That feeble nature drops—calm all her fears,
Wake all her hopes, and animate her faith,
Till my rapt soul, anticipating heaven,
Bursts from the thraldom of incumb'ring clay,
And, on the wings of ecstacy upborne,
Springs into liberty, and light, and life!"

These verses are replete with harmony; a rich imagery runs through the whole, and the beautiful climax at the close cannot fail to srike with admiration. It has, however, conspicuous faults—faults which the harmony of verse can never palliate. Were the pious author now upon his death-bed, we dare answer for him, that if he wished to strengthen his fortitude at the grim array of Death, he would summon from his memory something more efficacious than his

———————" goodly train of virtues fair,"

and, ere he appeared at the throne of his God, he would wish to be clothed in a purer robe than that of his own—" conscious innocence."

In the year 1760, there was published a singular piece of infidelity, entitled " The History of the Man after God's own Heart," the author of which was Peter Auriel. The object of this gross production was to

to

to expose to contempt the sacred history, on account of the aberrations of David. In point of argument it was poor and mean; but it was, nevertheless, calculated to do considerable mischief on the dark mind and on the hardened heart. Its sophistry was such as to impose upon the weak, while its presumption and levity could not fail to gratify the prophane and reprobate. To check the evil tendency of this work, our divine, among several other able writers, stood forth in the glorious cause which he professed, in order to *put to silence the works of darkness*. He published a sermon, which he had preached Nov. 29, 1761, before the university of Cambridge, and entitled, "The Character of David, King of Israel, impartially stated." It was this discourse, we believe, which procured him the patronage of the learned Dr. Secker, then archbishop of Canterbury; for, about this period, we find that he appointed him one of his domestic chaplains, and, in the following year, he presented him to the rectory of Wittersham, in Kent. The friendship of the good prelate still followed him. In 1764, he gave him the rectory of Bucking, in the same county; also a prebend stall in the cathedral church of Peterborough.

Mr. Porteus entered the marriage state on May 13, 1765. The lady of his choice was Miss Hodgson, of Parliament-street; and in the same year he obtained the valuable living of Hunton. July 7, 1766, he was created doctor of divinity, and in the month following the archbishop gave him the rectory of Lambeth, vacant by the death of Dr. Denne, and with this he was permitted to retain the rectory of Hunton.

In 1768, he lost his friend and patron Dr. Secker, who

who by his will intrusted him and Dr. Stinton (his other chaplain), with the revision and publication of his lectures on the Church Catechism, Sermons, &c. This trust was most faithfully executed. The Sermons, printed in 1770, were prefaced by an elegant memoir of their author, and this was written solely by Dr. Porteus. This was afterwards printed in a separate form, with additions.

In 1776, he became master of St. Cross, on option of Archbishop Secker; and, in the following January, he was advanced to the episcopal bench, by the translation of Dr. Markham from the see of Chester to the archbishoprick of York. This promotion, it is generally understood, was procured by the immediate solicitations of the queen, who, during her illness, had found Dr. Porteus, as a private chaplain, very acceptable. In this elevated station, he, instead of lying upon his couch, regardless of the high importance of his profession, conducted himself with a zeal becoming the primitive fathers; not forgetting in his episcopal dignity the simplicity of a christian minister.

Observing with great concern the almost total neglect of the day which the early churches had appropriated for the commemoration of the sufferings and death of the Redeemer, especially in the metropolis, his lordship printed, "An earnest Exhortation to the religious observance of Good-Friday, in a Letter to the Inhabitants of Lambeth," which excited considerable notice; and he had the satisfaction of finding that his exhortation was attended with great success.

He was strongly seconded in the laudable attempt by the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge. They caused his pamphlet to be printed in a cheap from

form, and circulated in great numbers, by which means thousands were roused to pay a proper attention to that day; so that from this period it has been kept, in London and its vicinity, with great strictness.

His love of humanity and justice was conspicuously exemplified by a sermon, which he preached before the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge in Foreign Parts. On that occasion, he in the most persuasive eloquence, set in a proper view the enormity of the slave trade, and the consequent sufferings of the much injured Africans. This sermon attracted much notice, and led the way to great exertions on behalf of those oppressed victims to avarice and cruelty.

It is hardly possible, for a mind possessing a spark of philanthropy, to glance upon this theme untouched by horror and disgust.—England, a free country!—England, professing christianity!—and England, a dealer in human blood!—"Bring no more vain oblations! incense is an abomination unto me: the new-moons and sabbaths—the calling of assemblies; I cannot away with it—it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting. Wash you, make you clean—put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes—cease to do well—seek judgment—relieve the oppressed—judge the fatherless—plead for the widow." Isa. chap. 1.

On the death of Bishop Lowth, which happened in the year 1787, Dr. Porteus was translated to the see of London; an event which every party, whether of the established church or of the dissenters, rejoiced at with unanimous satisfaction.

Still mindful of the cause of the hapless negro slaves in the West Indies, his lordship instituted a society for the conversion of them, and which, we rejoice to

to say, has not failed of success, although it is known that many of the planters used every means in their power to impede the gracious attempt, by receiving the small tracts and extracts from the book of life, and, instead of distributing them among their wretched brethren, either locking them up, or destroying them. It is impossible to conceive a conduct more destitute of christianity, and more depraved by guilt than this. They understood enough of the gospel to know, that, wherever it spreads, light and wisdom follow it. But it was a light which would reveal their dark and damned deeds, and therefore did they strive to smother it.

His lordship, in order to stop the gigantic strides of infidelity, in the year 1797, commenced a course of Lectures on the Truth of the Gospel and the Divinity of Christ's Mission, which he preached in St. James's church every Friday, to crouded and admiring audiences. His unaffected, but persuasive eloquence, his warm and impressive manner, engaged the attention and excited the interest of every hearer. Many who came from curiosity went away with applauding hearts, and, perhaps, many

> "Fools, who came to laugh, remained to pray."

His exertions in the cause of christianity have continued to be unremitting, and conducted upon principles the most liberal, not seeking to "Lord it over the consciences of any." Men of all parties have been ever ready to concur in the praise of his candour, faithfulness, moderation, and liberality.

He is, we believe, a more frequent preacher than the

the rest of his brethren. During his summer residence in the country, he often ascends the pulpit to explain the principles and to enforce the practice of our divine religion. Not only ready to preach charity to others, he is himself forward to practise it; not shutting his ears against the voice of distress, nor withholding his hand from its relief.

In politics his lordship is ever guided by moderation. He uniformly voted with his Majesty's late ministers, and, we doubt not, from principle. But he has on no occasion manifested a violent party spirit; on the contrary, he has steered himself in peace, as becomes a follower of "The Prince of Peace."

Bishop Porteus is not less eminent for his piety than for his literary attainments, which justly rank him among the first scholars of the age. His style is remarkable for its classical purity, while it is extremely plain, disdaining all ornaments but such as tend to illustration.

Besides the productions already noticed, he has published two volumes of excellent sermons, and several charges and small tracts on religious subjects.

NAPOLEON BUONAPARTE.

"—————— Man, proud man,
Dressed in a little brief authority,
Plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven,
As makes the Angels weep."

It is difficult to contemplate a man, low-born and obscure, who, having risen from almost nothing, has attained a height of power and command which dazzles the strongest sight, without the extreme of wonder and astonishment. Such a man is Buonaparte, now Emperor of the French, King of Italy, and subjugator of the greater part of the European continent. Alexander the Great, conquered armies, ravaged kingdoms, and overwhelmed empires; but Alexander himself was the son of a mighty conqueror, regularly instructed in every art of warfare then in use, and was supported by the ablest generals of the age in which he lived, and who had long led the veteran armies of the Macedonian Philip. Alexander too, had chiefly to contend with savages unaccustomed to the Macedonian mode of war, and who, comparatively ignorant of all military tactics, were swept down almost without resistance; but Buonaparte has achieved greater conquests than Alexander, and over regular armies composed of troops superior in every requisite of

of the soldier, to those which he himself commanded. Yet Buonaparte as we conceive will appear in the course of the ensuing pages, has no spark of that true courage, of that genuine heroism, which animated the ambitious bosom of Alexander.

The period of this man's birth, whose actions have created a new epoch in the history of Europe, has been fixed at the 15th of August, 1769. Various are the accounts which have been given of his family. According to some, Carlo Buonaparte, his father, was a gentleman descended from a Tuscan family, which settled two hundred years ago in Corsica; although, during the civil troubles, he served as a common soldier under General Paoli. Like Foote's Cadwallader, however, it does not appear, that he ever "had a grandfather." But a work, which was much circulated ed in France in the year 1800, is much more minute, and probably more correct. From this tract, entitied "*The Genealogy of the Successor to the French Bourbons*," we make the following extract:—"After the disgrace of Theodore, King of Corsica, the Republic of Genoa published an official paper to make him and his adherents more ridiculous and despised; intituled, "A list of all persons ennobled by the adventurer, calling himself King Theodore of Corsica;" this list was printed by the widow Rossi, at Genoa, in 1744, and contains, pages six and seven, some curious remarks upon the usurper's family, more to be depended on than those which fear, interest, meanness, and adulation have fabricated, since he seated himself upon the throne of the Bourbons.—When in May 1736, Porto Vecchio was attacked, a butcher from Ajaccio, called *Josepho Buona*, brought a seasonable

assistance

assistance with a band of vagabonds and robbers, who, during the civil troubles, had chosen him for their leader; in return King Theodore, on the 4th of May of the same year, created him a nobleman, and permitted him as a memorandum of his services, to add to his name *Buona* the final termination of *parte;* his wife's name was Histria, daughter of a journeyman tanner, at Bastia. The father of Josepho Buona, Carlo Buona, kept a wine house for factors; but being accused and convicted of murder and robbery, he died a galley-slave at Genoa, 1724; his wife an accomplice, and who, on account of her extreme vicious character, was called La Birba, died in 1730, in the house of correction at Geneva; those were the grand and great grand parents of his Consular Majesty:—Who his father was is well known, and that he served and betrayed by turns his country during the civil wars. After France had conquered Corsica, he was the spy to the French Governors, and his wife their mistress. From this pure and virtuous source, descends Brutus Ally Napoleon Buonaparte, the successor of the Bourbons, born in a country whose inhabitants were in the time of the Romans, held in such detestation, on account of their infamous and treacherous disposition, that they would not have them even for their slaves."

The wife of Joseph, father of Napoleon Buonaparte, is known to have been the mistress, the adulterous mistress, of M. de Marbœuf, the French commander in Corsica. That gentleman patronized the family; and it is supposed to be owing to him that Joseph left the profession of a soldier for that of the law, by accepting the office of king's attorney, procured for him by the Count. Napoleon was the second of eight children. He

He and his elder brother Joseph were sent by Count Marbœuf, to the Vicar-general of Autun, to be placed in the free-school there, whence Napoleon was afterwards removed to the Royal Military school at Bruenne.

Various circumstances are recorded of Napoleon, while a boy indicative of that cruelty, malignity, and ferocity which have distiuguished his maturer years. We shall relate some of these anecdotes, without however attempting to vouch for their truth. At the age of twelve, while at the free-school of Autun he is said to have had a fovorite dog, which had belonged to his deceased father, who was particularly fond of him, and who, on his death bed, had bequeathed him to Napoleon to be taken care of. For fifteen months this dog had been his constant and faithful attendant; when one night, by stealing a part of his master's supper, he offended him so much, that after a cruel beating, Buonaparte swore the d.g should never live another supper-time; the next day he put his threat into execution, by nailing the poor animal alive against the wall, and cutting him up deliberately, that he might be tormented so much the longer!!!

Among the school-fellows and associates of Buonaparte, at Bruenne, was the late amiable and regretted General Philipeaux, who, as a loyalist, distinguished himself with Sir Sydney Smith at the defence of Acre. Buonaparte at this period is reported to have had an intrigue with the daughter of a washerwoman, who found herself in a state of pregnancy. "He consulted Philipeaux" says the author of the Revolutionary Plutarch, "how to extricate himself from this disagreeable affair; and was advised by him to give her some

some money to carry her to the lying-in-hospital at Lyons, and Philipeaux offered his purse to assist him. The money was accepted; but within four and twenty hours the unfortunate girl perished, with her child, victims to the early cruelty of this young monster, who had brought her some pills; as he said, to produce an abortion or a miscarriage; but which, in fact, were composed of or mixed with verdigris and arsenic. The protection of M. de Marbœuf, however, the interest and reputation of the school, and a sum of money given by his protector to the girl's mother, saved him from a well-deserved punishment. On the day that his poisoned mistress had been buried, he began to court her younger sister, and thus augmented his former unrepented guilt by base insensibility."

It is further stated, that "his greatest amusement when a boy, was to frequent the public hospitals when any dreadful or disgusting operation was to be performed, and to regard the pains and agonies of the sufferer, and of the dying. With what little money he had, he paid the attendants in these abodes of misery, to be informed when any scene of horror, conformable to his feelings, was expected to take place; and he diverted himself after with his comrades, in mimicing the convulsive struggles of suffering or expiring humanity. He piqued himself on having seen, before he was fifteen, five hundred and forty-four operations, or amputations, and the agonies or deaths of one hundred and sixty persons."

We conceived it possible, that the devil may be painted too black; and were we to impress the belief of these horrible atrocities we should fear that our

testimony

testimony might not be holden valid, even on points of absolute necessity.

By the absurd and dangerous system of education which prevailed in France during the latter years of its monarchy, both Buonaparte and Philipeaux imbibed at an early age an admiration of the Grecian and Roman republics, both had his chosen heroes of antiquity, whom he desired to imitate in his method, manners, and language. While Philipeaux rather inclined to the mild and amiable philosophy of a Tully, the cruel and unfeeling stoicism of a Cato and of a Brutus was the admiration of Buonaparte.

Buonaparte at an early age obtained a commission in the artillery service; and, by the age of twenty-one, he was a complete revolutionary fanatic. In 1790, he took the decreed oath to the nation, which annulled his former oath of allegiance to his prince; an act for which he was publicly insulted at the mess of his regiment by his ci-devant friend Philipeaux, who stigmatised him as a perjured traitor. Notwithstanding the nice principles of honour, an adherence to which is so much boasted of by French officers, Buonaparte declined either to demand an explanation, or to seek for satisfaction. But Buonaparte was not a Frenchman. In consequence of his pusillanimity, however, he was excluded the mess, and in revenge, he excited the jacobins to attack the whole corps with their usual calumnies, abusing them, as aristocrats, and threatening them with the lamp-post, or, as it was then called, the lantern of the sovereign people. To spare their countrymen from fresh crimes, most of the officers, and among others Philipeaux, emigrated; after this, he was promoted to the rank of captain; and in the course

course of the revolution he was often employed in different expeditions; but his situation was obscure, his exertions unnoticed, and his character suspected, on account of his known connections with intriguers of all parties, either aristocrats or jacobins, either Frenchmen or Corsicans. After resigning his company in the regiment of artillery *de la Fère*, he obtained the command of the national battalion of Ajaccio at Corsica.

It is said, that he there offered to betray that place to Lord Hood, by whose squadron it was then blockaded, and that the offer was rejected, as coming from too low a quarter. The proposal, however, reached the ears of the French commander in chief, in consequence of which Buonaparte was cashiered, and sent to France, where he remained in obscurity and poverty till the year, 1793, when the English were in possession of Toulon. At that period, Salicetti, one of the deputies on mission with the republican army, having some acquaintance with Buonaparte, recommended him to his colleague Barras, and he was employed, during the siege, with the rank of a chef-de-brigade. The cruelties which followed the surrender of Toulon, he commenced or committed. By a deceitful proclamation, all the inhabitants who had employment under the English, during their occupation of Toulon, who had *served* or *lodged* any Englishman, or who had been *suspected* to have favoured their entry and the capitulation of that city, either *directly* or *indirectly* were ordered, under pain of death, to meet in the grand square, called Le Champ de Mars, on a fixed day and hour. Upwards of fifteen hundred men, women, and children assembled there in consequence of this proclamation. Buonaparte then desired all those who wished

to

to escape punishment and death, to cry out *Vive la Republique!* With one voice these unfortunate persons called out the Republic for ever! This was the signal for their destruction. Cannons loaded with grape-shot killed some and maimed and wounded others, who were dispatched with swords and bayonets. The official report of this ferocious performance is contained in the following letter from Buonaparte, addressed to Barras, Freron, and Robespierre the younger, representatives of the people, dated Toulon, the 29th Frimaire, year 2, (December 24th, 1793).

"*Toulon, Dec.* 1793.

"Citizens Representatives,—Upon the field of "glory, my feet inundated with the blood of traitors, "I announce to you, with a heart beating with joy, "that your orders are executed, and France revenged. "Neither sex nor age have been spared; those who "escape, or were only mutilated by the discharges "of our republican cannon, were dispatched by the "swords of liberty and the bayonets of equality.

"Health and admiration,

"BRUTUS BUONAPARTE.

"Citizen Sans-Culotte."

This act of barbarity, almost infernal, rendered Buonaparte a favourite with Robespierre; but that destroyer, being at length himself destroyed, Buonaparte, with those with whom he acted, became exposed to public vengeance. Joining a party in arms against the existing government, he marched to attack Marseilles, but, being beaten at Cujes, he fled to Nice, where he was apprehended and committed to prison,

 by

by the lieutenant-colonel who commanded the *gendarmerie*, there, by the order of Belfroi, the deputy of the convention, sent to arrest the leaders of the TERRORISTS; he was afterwards sent to Paris, where, receiving the benefit of an amnesty, or act of grace, he was set at large.

A new opportunity of shedding the blood of the French soon presented itself. Buonaparte offered himself to Barras, who was already acquainted with his talents, and accepted his services for the 13th Vendémaire (4th of October, 1794).

The 13th of Vendémaire is one of the most melancholy days of slaughter, which, among so many, stand pre-eminent in the history of the revolution. Some time before this massacre, the mountaineers*, and other conspirators, had employed with the greatest activity, every method of dividing the sections of Paris. Military men took upon them the vile trade of spy or police-follower, and were paid as such; they were specially charged to describe every obnoxious person as a royalist, a conspirator, and a counter-revolutionist. The people were, in fact, enraged against the deputies, who persevered in representing them against their wish. They complained, that with a majority of 500 in 750, it rested with the deputies to prevent Robespierre and his associates from transforming France into a burial-ground.

The situation of Paris, says General Danican, was alarming. The government, which, 15 days preceding, had acted with an affected mildness, and which appeared to be borne down by the weight of public con-

* A name given to the more violent jacobins, who sat on the high seats in the hall of the convention,

tempt

tempt, threw aside the mask on the 4th of October (12 Vendémiaire), and resorted to those vigorous measures, by which it hoped to legitimate its violation. The disturbances commenced on the evening of that day. The chief command was entrusted by the sections to the ex-brigadier-general Danican, who had resigned at the head of his troops, refusing to execute the sanguinary decrees of the convention. The forces of five sections formed a junction at the Pont-Neuf. On reaching the end of the *Rue Dauphine*, they found the head of the bridge occupied by a piquet of dragoons. About midnight, the officer commanding a column of the conventional troops, brought two four-pounders to enfilade General Danican's position, which he had taken in haste, on the height of the place Dauphine. General Danican told the enemy, that if he persisted in passing the bridge, he must pass it over the bodies of 6000 Frenchmen, resolved on defending their rights. While this was passing, another column advanced, designing to cut off the Parisians on the side of the Quatre-nations, and was preparing to charge; but the latter presenting their arms, it retreated at the sound, and the remainder of the night was spent in quietness.

Hitherto General Menou had been at the head of the conventional troops. It was not till the morning of the fatal day, that Barras, though previously fixed upon, received his nomination, and that he brought in Buonaparte, and others of his own stamp. Generals Menou, Raffet, and several others, aware of the infamous conspiracy, of which it was designed to make them the tools, had refused to load themselves with shame and blood.

Anxious

Anxious to arrest the torrent of calamity, which menaced his country, General Danican entreated some of the adherents of the convention, particularly Taillefort and Buonaparte, to represent to the committee the moderate views of the sections. He felt that an explanation might resume their rights, and continue to proceed freely to the elections. The struggle, between the sections and the government, was unequal, and it would have been highly blameable in attempting it.--- He wrote, therefore, to the committee of public safety, warmly expressing the sentiments of the Parisians, "who had taken to arms only in the fear of being massacred by the Terrorists, with whom the convention had surrounded itself." He proposed to restore every thing to order, and asked for a reply, calculated to re-assure the inhabitants of Paris. In a word, he begged, he conjured the committee, in the name of humanity and the country, to spare the blood of the French; adding, that, on his part, he would do every thing in his power to avert the horrors of civil war, and that if it took place, they alone should be responsible to France and to posterity.

On receiving this dispatch, the committee were thrown into the greatest embarrassment. The language it contained increased their disquietude. It would have relieved them, but it talked of fire and blood. They deliberated long: some members proposed that General Danican should be admitted into their presence, as he requested; but Barras and his faction opposed it, venting their customary lofty words, and determined on blood.

Notwithstanding this, certain of the leaders betrayed uneasiness; and, though they were thoroughly aware, that

that only a battle could restore the elasticity of the revolutionary spring, they could not conceal from themselves, that, in case of ill-success, their ruin was certain. On the other hand, the step which General Danican had taken, prevented them from making an immediate attack.

The Marato-Machiavelists, seeing themselves surrounded by public opinion in arms, conscious that several neighbouring towns were preparing to come to the assistance of Paris, and that all France was animated by the same spirit, adopted the plan of enchaining the indignation of the sections, and paralizing the resources they were capable of developing, in case of attack.

It was an hour before the general received any reply. At length, they answered verbally, by his messenger, that the representatives of the people sincerely desired the re-establishment of order; that twenty-four members of the committee were about to be deputed, to speak the language of peace to the sections, and *re-assure* the citizens; that, as to the official answer General Danican demanded, he must feel, in the actual posture of affairs, they could not give it; and that, for the rest, it would be forgotten and healed, if the armed sections retired.

After finding that nothing beneficial was to follow this answer, and being confirmed in the opinion, that the convention could not be taken by assault, and that an attack was as impracticable as ridiculous, General Danican adopted what appeared to him the wisest and most soldier-like conduct. He proposed to some of the chiefs to lead back the troops into their quarters, and employed himself in disposing every thing for

a general

a general retreat. At this moment, he was sent for from the *Pont-Neuf*, when it was said, the sections had obtained a slight advantage, without striking a blow. The fact was, they had obliged the conventional general to fall back on the Garden *de l'Enfante*, where the position was better. He hesitated to reconnoitre, and returned immediately.

On re-entering the *Rue de St. Honoré*, he saw some shots fired from the side of the *Rue de l'Echelle*, and *de St. Roch*. Instantly he rode to the *Cul de Sac Dauphine*, across the posts of the convention. As he had forbidden every species of aggression, he anxiously enquired whence the musquet-shots had proceeded.— It was universally answered, that concealed persons had fired on the post of St. Roch. While he spoke, the firing re-commenced. In a moment the cannon had mowed down several victims. The crowd on the post of St. Roch were dispersed. The battalion of the *Butte des Moulins* fought to the last extremity, and on this occasion, many citizens performed prodigies of courage. Some were killed in rushing on the cannon. At length, the sections retired in all directions at once. The artillery swept the streets, and in an instant every thing was lost.

The troops of the convention now fell upon the flying people, attacking them on every side. The fear of being treated like the Toulonese and Lyonese, threw all the sections into general consternation. There was not a family, which had not to weep or fear the loss of a relation. The shops remained shut during the eight days which followed. In the streets were seen only Terrorists, or idlers, going to view the field of battle, and the effects of the artillery on the portal of *St. Roch*, the

the broken windows and the bullets in the walls.—There was no exchange, no business; and this horrible state of things was what the convention described as a profound calm reigning in Paris!!!

All the narrations differ from each other, as to the number of dead and wounded of this disastrous day. The convention pretended to have lost only 70 republicans, while the sections had had 1,800 killed. Other accounts represent the number of victims, including both sides, as being 10,000.

Pleased at the conduct of Buonaparte in the streets of Paris, his protector, Barras, first made him second in command in the army of the interior, and, in a short time afterwards, commander in chief over the same army.

Scherer, by an important victory, obtained in November, 1795, had driven the Austrians to the very gates of Genoa. Buonaparte was now in his twenty-eighth year. On the 9th of April, 1795, General Beaulieu, who now commanded the Austrians, and their allies, attacked his post at Volit, which was abandoned, the troops retreating on Madona de Savona. On the 11th, Buonaparte gained the battle of Montanotte. Here commenced the career of victory, which he abused by turning his arms against states which were not at war with France—as, Genoa, Venice, Lucca, Parma, Modena, and the Pope. When he attacked the Pope, it is to be allowed he was not a catholic: he destroyed the Pope, "because the Pope taught that war must be made on Mussulmen*." To make up, however, for not being a catholic,

* A proclamation at Alexandria, 83, Messidor. an. 6.

tholic, he was a decided jacobin. It was at the head of the Marseillese, and other inhabitants of the Fauxbourg of St. Antoine, that he had forced the citizens of Paris to be free. It was with the Bergamascs* of the lesser port of Genoa, with that noble party of the republic, and especially that party so greatly interested in its form and prosperity, that by the terror of his legions, and under his directions and detailed instructions, the revolution of the Genoese was accomplished.

It is not necessary to recal all the blood which Napoleon shed in Italy, or the unbounded pillage which he authorised by his example: but we ought not to pass over in silence his just arbitration between the Grisons and the Valtelins! He redressed the wrongs of the Valtelins by confiscating their country to the profit of the Cisalpine; and they owe to this piece of swindling the honour of being at this day among the number of his subjects!!!

"His name" said Mr. Pitt, in the debate occasioned by his proposals for negociation with Great Britain, "his name will be recorded with the horrors committed in Italy, in the memorable campaign of 1797, in the Milanese, in Genoa, in Modena, in Tuscany, in Rome, and in Venice!!

His entrance into Lombardy was announced by a solemn proclamation, issued on the 27th of April, 1796, which terminated with these words: *Nations of Italy! the French army is come to break your chains: the French are the friends of the people in every country;*

* Wharf-porters of Genoa; so called because many of them come from the mountains of Bergama.

your religion, your property, your customs, shall be respected. This was followed by a second proclamation, dated from Milan, 20th of May, and signed Buonaparte, in these terms: *Respect for the religion of countries;* THESE *are the sentiments of the government of the French republic, and of Italy. The French, victorious, consider the nations of Lombardy as their brothers.* In testimony of this fraternity, and to fulfil the solemn pledge of respecting property; this very proclamation imposed on the Milanese a provisional contribution to the amount of twenty millions of livres, or near one million sterling, and successive exactions were afterwards levied on that single state, to the amount, in the whole, of near six millions sterling. The regard to religion and the customs of the country, was manifested with the same scrupulous fidelity. The churches were given up to indiscriminate plunder; every religious and charitable fund; and every public treasure was confiscated. The country was made the scene of every species of disorder and rapine. The priests, the established form of worship, all the objects of religious reverence, were openly insulted by the French troops; at Pavia, particularly, the tomb of *St. Augustin*, which the inhabitants were accustomed to view with peculiar veneration, was mutilated and defaced. This last proclamation having roused the resentment of the people, they flew to arms, surrounded the French garrison, and took them prisoners, but carefully abstained from offering any violence to a single soldier. In revenge for this conduct, Buonaparte, then on his march to the Mincio, suddenly returned, collected his troops, and carried the extremity of military execution over the countries; he burnt the town of Benasco, and massacred

cred eight hundred of the inhabitants; he marched to Pavia, took it by storm, and delivered it over to general plunder; and published at the same time a proclamation of the 26th of May, ordering his troops to shoot all those who had not laid down their arms, and taken the oath of obedience, and to burn every village where the tocsin should be sounded, and to put its inhabitants to death.—The transactions with Modena were on a smaller scale, but in the same character. Buonaparte began with signing a treaty by which the Duke of Modena was to pay twelve millions of livres, and neutrality was promised him in return; this was soon followed by the personal arrest of the duke, and by a fresh extortion of two hundred thousand sequins; after this he was permitted, on the payment of a further sum, to sign another treaty, called a *Convention de Sureté*; which of course was only the prelude to the repetition of similar exactions.

Nearly at the same period, in violation of the rights of neutrality, and of the treaty which had been concluded between the French republic and the Grand Duke of Tuscany in the preceding year, and in a breach of a positive promise only a few days before, the French army forcibly took possession of Leghorn, for the purpose of seizing the British property which was deposited there, and confiscating it as a prize; and shortly after Buonaparte agreed to evacuate Leghorn, in return for the evacuation of the island of Elba, which was in the possession of the British troops, insisting upon a separate article, by which, in addition to the plunder before obtained, by the infraction of the law of nations, it was stipulated that the Grand Duke

Duke should pay to the French the expence which they had incurred by thus invading his territory.

The same system of extortion and plunder was practised against Genoa, which was at that time acknowledged by France to be in a state of neutrality and Friendship. In breach of that neutrality, Buonaparte began in the year 1796, with the demand of a loan; he afterwards enforced the payment of a monthly subsidy, accompanying his exactions by repeated assurances and protestations of friendship. After a series of hypocritical, infamous, and oppressive proceedings, the detail of which our limits will not permit us to enter into, he succeeded in overturning the Genoese government, and gave the inhabitants a new constitution, as a price for which he extorted the sum of seven millions of livres.

It is unnecessary to dwell on the wanton attacks against Rome, under the direction of Buonaparte himself, in the year 1796, and in the beginning of 1797, which led first to the treaty of Solentino, concluded by Buonaparte, in which, by enormous sacrifices, the Pope was allowed to purchase the acknowledgement of his authority, as a sovereign prince; and, secondly, to the violation of that very treaty, and to the subversion of the papal authority by Joseph Buonaparte, the brother and the agent of the general, and the minister of the French republic, to the holy see. A transaction accompanied by outrages and insults towards the pious and venerable pontiff (in spite of the sanctity of his age, and the unsullied purity of his character) which even to a protestant seem hardly short of the guilt of sacrilege.

But of all the disgusting and tragical scenes which

 took

took place in Italy in the course of the period here alluded to, those which passed at Venice are perhaps the most striking, and the most characteristic. In May, 1796, the French army, under Buonaparte, in the full tide of its success against the Austrians, first approached the territories of the republic, which, from the commencement of the war, had observed a rigid neutrality. Their entrance on these territories was as usual, accompanied by a solemn proclamation in the name of the republican general. "*Buonaparte to the Republic of Venice.* It is to deliver the finest country in Europe *from the iron yoke of the proud House of Austria*, that the French army has braved obstacles the most difficult to surmount. Victory in unison with justice has crowned its efforts. The wreck of the enemy's army has retired behind the Mincio. The French army, in order to follow them, passes over the territory of the republic of Venice; but it will never forget *that ancient friendship* unites the two republics. *Religion, government, customs and property* shall be respected. That the people may be without apprehension, the most severe discipline shall be maintained. All that may be provided for the army, shall be faithfully paid for in money. The general-in-chief engages the officers of the republic of Venice, the magistrates, and the priests, to make known these sentiments to the people, in order that confidence may cement that friendship which has so long united the two nations, faithful in the path of honor as in that of victory. The French soldier is terrible only to the enemies of his liberty and his government.—*Buonaparte.*" This proclamation was followed by exactions similar to those which were practised against Genoa, by

by the renewal of similar means to excite insurrection. At length, in the spring of 1797, occasion was taken from disturbances thus excited to forge, in the name of the Venetian government, a proclamation hostile to France, and this proceeding was made the ground for military execution against the country, and for effecting by force the subversion of its ancient government, and the establishment of the democratic terms of the French revolution. This revolution was sealed by a treaty, signed in May 1797, between Buonaparte and commissioners appointed on the part of the new and revolutionary government of Venice. By the second and third secret articles of this treaty, Venice agreed to give a ransom to secure itself against all further exactions and demands, the sum of three millions of livres in money, the value of three millions more in articles of naval supply, and three ships of the line; and it received in return, the assurances of the friendship of the French republic. Immediately after the signature of this treaty, the arsenal, the library, the palace of St. Mark, were ransacked and plundered, and heavy additional contributions were imposed upon its inhabitants. And, in not more than four months afterwards, this very Republic of Venice, united by alliance to France, the creature of Buonaparte himself, from whom it had received the present of French liberty, was by the same Buonaparte transferred under the treaty of Campo Formio to that *iron yoke of the proud house of Austria*, to deliver it from which, he had represented in his first proclamation to be the great object of all his operations.

Buonaparte (according to the author of a work, entitled, *Les Crimes des Republicains en Italie, printed at Verona,*

Verona, in 1799) during his sixteen months campaign in Italy, caused twenty-four villages and six towns to be burned, ten thousand and ninety of their inhabitants to be shot, thrown into the fire of their burning dwellings, or drowned. Five thousand and forty-two virgins were ravished, and fourteen thousand six hundred and twenty six married women were violated. Thirty two villages, nine towns, and four cities, were laid under military execution; and six hundred and fifty-two thousand of their inhabitants, who escaped death, were reduced to want and beggary.

Among various other crimes alledged against Buonaparte, during his Italian campaign, is that of causing his sick and wounded soldiers to be buried alive. This charge has been substantiated in a letter written by a French general then with the army, and transmitted to this country by an ambassador of one of the powers then allied to the French Republic. The writer states the fact in the following terms: "In the hospitals appropriated to the sick and wounded, the surgeons devoted to Buonaparte have a *constant order*, as soon as they see a sick soldier past recovery, or one, whom incurable wounds will render of no longer use to the service, to set a mark upon his bed; which fatal mark announces to the attendants that this victim *is to be carried away with the dead!* He is accordingly thrown into a waggon appointed to remove the dead bodies to the grave, and is generally *strangled* or *smothered*! But, notwithstanding these precautions, as the carriages move along to the place of interment, the cries and groans of the unfortunate men about to be *buried alive* may be distinctly heard on all sides! To this horrible fact I have myself been an eye witness, as well

well as to what I am going to relate :—In the month of July, 1797, after an action which took place near Salo on the Lae de Guarda, Buonaparte gave orders that *not only the dead but the dying and wounded, should be buried!* The wretched victims were placed upon five waggons, and at midnight were dragged to an enormous ditch, and precipitated therein. The cries of the living being distinctly heard, the monsters threw down eight loads of burning lime upon them, which, falling upon the undressed wounds of the poor victims, caused them to send forth such piercing moans, that the virtuous curate of Salo, seized with horror at the transaction, died in consequence of the affright !"

It is said, that the writer of this letter, denounced Buonaparte to Rewbell, and that the reason why the perpetrator of such an unheard of crime was not punished, was because Rewbell had shared with him some of his plunder of Italy, and that Buonaparte was conceived to be necessary to the revolution which Rewbell, Barras, and La Reveilliere had in contemplation, and which actually took place on the 4th of September, 1797.

It is particularly worthy of remark, that nearly at the same period when Buonaparte committed, or ordered to be committed these enormities, he dispatched a letter to the Archduke Charles with proposals for the termination of hostilities, which contained the following *humane* and *philanthropic* passage :—" *As for me, General, if the overture which I have the honor to make to you, can save the life of a* SINGLE MAN, *I shall pride myself more upon the civic crown which my* CONSCIENCE *will tell me I shall have deserved, than upon the melancholy glory which arises from military success.*"

In

In addition to the superiority of numbers, which Buonaparte, when engaged with the Austrians, uniformly had over them, there were other causes which contributed to his success. One of these was, the different situations of Buonaparte and the Archduke :—the former being wholly independant, and left to his own discretion ; the latter being under restraint even in his simplest motion. The Council of War at Vienna, had the imprudence not only to form the general plan of the campaign, but also to assume to itself the charge of directing the execution and local application of it. The Austrian generals, bound by positive instructions, not daring to undertake any thing contrary to them, and being less responsible for events than for their obedience to the orders which they had received, were often induced to sacrifice opportunities of probable success, and to consider less how to deserve applause, than how to escape censure. The first dispositions of the Austrians being made with care, and the general executing them with scrupulous fidelity, they were almost always crowned with success ; but when the chance of war produced an unforeseen event, which reduced the Austrian generals to the impossibility of executing the plan which had been dictated to them, they being compelled to rely on their own discretion, not being in the habit of taking it for their guide, and fearing to commit themselves, they neither dared, nor were capable of acting independantly, and did not hazard any of those decisive strokes, which, in certain circumstances, can alone give victory :—Buonaparte was much more advantageously situated ; the necessity in which the directory found itself of paying and maintaining the armies of the Republic, at the expence of the countries which

they

they occupied, did not admit of its limiting the power of its generals; and as those had every thing to do, it was necessary that they should have the power to do every thing. To this alone is to be imputed the greater part of the success of Buonaparte.

Having concluded with the ministers of the Emperor the treaty of Campo Formio, Buonaparte returned to Paris, where a new revolution, but a short time before, had taken place; the Republican and Directorial Constitution having been openly violated by the conspiracies, intrigues, and crimes of Buonaparte's friends, backed by the addresses and bayonets of his army in Italy.

An expedition against England was at this time much talked of, and it is said that Buonaparte, who was looked up to as the leader of that expedition, succeeded in obtaining considerable sums of money, by way of loan upon the credit of the plunder of this country. Those, however, who examined more considerately the place and manner of equipping the army, were satisfied that its destination was for some other post. Egypt, as it afterwards appeared, was the grand object of Buonaparte's contemplation. Accordingly on the 19th of May, 1798, the armament of which he was appointed commander-in-chief, sailed from Toulon. After embarking two thousand artists of all kinds, chemists, botanists, members of the pylo-technical school, in prodigious numbers, and we know not what quantities of people called *Savans*, Buonaparte assembled the Italian army, amounting to twenty-two thousand men, and after gravely promising on his *honour*, which he had observed had ever been sacred, that every soldier should receive six acres and a half of good

good land, took them on board, and proceeded towards Malta. We shall not stop to notice the capture, as it has been called, of that island; as it was an event which had been secured before Buonaparte left Toulon, by the intrigues and largesses of Poussiergue: these have since been laid open by the Bailly Teignie, and others; and made the subject of a formal accusation against the Grand Master Hompesch, by the knights which took refuge in Germany, Russia, &c.

Two days before the arrival of the fleet at Alexandria, Buonaparte informed the naval commander, Admiral Brueys, of his design. He had previously issued a proclamation to the soldiers, in which, after telling them that they were going to undertake a conquest, the effects of which, *on the commerce and civilization of the world it was impossible to calculate*, he makes some observations of which, because the Paris historians have omitted them, we think it our duty to preserve the memory.

"*The people among whom you are going to reside are Mahometans. The first article of their faith is, There is no God but God, and Mahomet is his Prophet. Do not contradict them, act with them as you did with the Jews and Italians. Treat their Muftis and their Imans with respect, as you did the Rabbis and the Bishops. You must act with the same spirit of toleration, towards the ceremonies prescribed by the Alcoran that you did to the synagogues and the convents, to the religions of Moses and of Jesus Christ.*"

Buonaparte landed during the night between the 13th and 14th of July, with twenty-five thousand men, and marched from the Fort of Marabout, toward the city of Alexandria, a distance of about three French

leagues

leagues. No resistance whatever was made to their march. At day-break he began the attack. "We reached the town," says General Boyer, in one of his letters found among the *Intercepted Correspondence*, "which was defended by a garrison of near five hundred Janizaries. Of the rest of the inhabitants some had thrown themselves into the forts, and others got on the tops of the houses. In this situation, they waited our attack. The charge is sounded.—our soldiers fly to the ramparts, which they scaled in spite of the obstinate defence of the besieged: many generals are wounded; among the rest Kleber;—we lost near 150 men; but courage at length subdues the obstinacy of the Turks. Repulsed on every side, They BETAKE THEMSELVES TO GOD AND THEIR PROPHET, AND FILL THEIR MOSQUES:—MEN, WOMEN, OLD, YOUNG, CHILDREN AT THE BREAST, ALL ARE MASSACRED. At the end of FOUR HOURS, the fury of our troops ceases;—tranquillity revives in the city—several forts capitulate; I myself reduce one; into which seven hundred Turks had fled;—CONFIDENCE SPRINGS UP; and by the next day all is quiet."

Another of General Boyer's letters, obtained from the same source as the preceding, contains the following passage:—"We began by making an assault upon a place WITHOUT ANY DEFENCE, and garrisoned by above five hundred Janizaries, of WHOM SCARCE A MAN KNEW HOW TO LEVÉL A MUSQUET.—I allude to Alexandria; a huge and wretched skeleton of a place, OPEN ON EVERY SIDE, and most certainly very unable to resist the efforts of twenty-five thousand men, who attacked it in the same instant. We lost

lost notwithstanding, a hundred and fifty men, WHOM WE MIGHT HAVE PRESERVED BY ONLY SUMMONING THE TOWN;—IT WAS THOUGHT NECESSARY TO BEGIN BY STRIKING TERROR INTO THE ENEMY.

It has been observed, that before any attack was made on Alexandria, Buonaparte circulated a printed address to his army, in which, after stating that the Romans protected all religions, he requested the soldiery to treat the "Muftis and Imans of Africa *with the same respect* which they had exhibited towards the bishops and rabbins of Europe." He also transmitted three proclamations, which had been prepared beforehand; the first of which was addressed to the Pacha of Egypt, stating, "that he was come *to put an end to the exactions of the Mamelukes*;" and inviting his highness, in the oriental style, "to *meet* and *curse* along with him the *impious* race of Beys." The second of these proclamations was addressed to the chief of the caravan; and the last to the inhabitants: in this, he *modestly* asserted, "that he came to *rescue the rights of the poor* from the hands of their tyrants;" and added, "that *the French respect*, more than the Mamelukes, *God*, HIS PROPHET, and THE KORAN. Cadis, Shieks, Imans, Chirbadgees!" continued he, "tell the people that we are the *friends of true Musselmen*. Did we not *dethrone the Pope*, who preached that it was necessary to make war against the *true believers*? Did we not destroy the knights of Malta because *those foolish men* thought that God wished hostilities to be perpetually carried on against those of your faith?" After stating, "that *all towns* and *villages* which might arm against the French *should be burnt*, he commanded every one

to

to remain in his house, *enjoined prayers* to be said as usual, and concluded with *Glory to the Sultan, glory to the French army,* HIS FRIENDS, *curses* to the Mamelukes, and *happiness* to the people of Egypt."

Possession of Alexandria having been thus obtained, Buonaparte proceeded into the interior of the country. The first place at which he stopped was the village of Edko, situated on the lake of the same name. The inhabitants of this village had committed some act of hostility against the detachment sent to occupy Rosetta. Buonaparte, in his dispatches to the directory, mentions this circumstance, and adds, that having given orders for the reduction of the town, it was assaulted accordingly: he then proceeds to applaud the gallantry of the troops that stormed, in as pompous a manner as though another Ismael had been taken; whereas this village had not even the mud-wall which surrounds all the others in Egypt. As a proof of the resistance, one hundred and fifty men, women, and children, were put to the sword, and not a Frenchman was hurt!!

When Captain Marley of the English staff, whose instructions were to visit Lake Edko, proceeded with Lieutenant Wright of the navy (supposed to have been recently assassinated in the temple) in the Tigre's barge, and lay opposite this little place, the chief, and principal persons immediately waded to them, expressing the greatest joy at seeing the English, and the utmost abhorrence of the French.

After a trifling affair at Chebriki, or Jibrish, in which about twenty Mamelukes were killed, Buonaparte advanced towards Cairo. On the 21st of July, at day-break, the army was within three leagues of that city and five of the celebrated Pyramids. On this spot took

took place, what has been bombastically termed the *Battle of the Pyramids.* The Mamelukes imprudently stationed themselves on the left bank of the Nile, and ventured a pitched battle; in consequence of which they were completely routed, and sustained a loss of seven or eight hundred men, many of them perishing in their attempt to cross the river. It has been considered by military men, well acquainted with the spot, and with the positions of the two armies, that, had not the Mamelukes placed themselves on the wrong side of the river, and imprudently offered battle to the French, they might, by harassing and disputing their passage, have completely destroyed them. Little glory, however, can attach to the circumstance of having, with twenty-four thousand *chosen* troops, routed three or four thousand men, wholly unacquainted with European tactics. This victory, however, if it may be termed one, put Buonaparte into possession of Cairo. "Our entrance into Grand Cairo," says General Boyer, whose letter will enable the reader to appreciate the merit of the French army, "will doubtless excite that sensation at home which every extraordinary event is calculated to produce; but when you come to know the kind of enemy that we had to combat, *the little art they employed against us, and the perfect nullity of all their measures, our expeditions and our victories will appear to you very common things.* After this (the assault of Alexandria); we marched against the Mamelukes; a people highly celebrated among the Egyptians for their bravery. *This rabble* (I cannot call them soldiers) which has not the most trifling idea of tactics, and which *knows nothing of war,* but the blood that is spilt in it, appeared, for the first time, opposed to an army on the 12th of July:—From the first dawn of day, they made

made a general display of their forces, which straggled round and round our army, *like so many cattle*; sometimes galloping, and sometimes pacing, in groups of ten, fifty, a hundred, &c. After some time, they made several attempts, *in a style equally ridiculous* and curious, to break in upon us; but finding every where a resistance which they probably did not expect, they spent the day in keeping us exposed to the fury of a burning sun. *Had we been a little more enterprizing this day, I think their fate would have been decided*; but General Buonaparte temporised, that he might make a trial of his enemy, and become acquainted with their manner of fighting.—This day ended with the retreat of the Mamelukes, *who scarcely lost five and twenty men.* We continued our march up the Nile till the 21st, which was the day that put a final termination to the power of the Mamelukes in Egypt.—*Four thousand men* on horseback, having each a groom or two, bore down intrepidly *on a numerous army of veterans*; their charge was an act of fury, rage, and despair. They attacked Dessaix and Regnier first. The soldiers of these divisions received them with steadiness, and, at the distance of only ten paces, opened a running fire upon them which brought down *one hundred and fifty*. They then fell upon Bon's division, which received them in the same manner. In short, after a number of unavailing efforts they made off; and carrying with them all their treasures took shelter in Upper Egypt. The fruit of this victory was Grand Cairo, where we have been ever since the evening of the 22d.

It would extend this sketch far beyond its necessary limits, were we to enter into many interesting particulars, which present themselves, relative to Buonaparte's

conduct in Cairo; but we cannot wholly overlook that which referred to his fleet, under the command of Admiral Brueys, and which was destroyed by Lord Nelson. In his letter to the Directory, Buonaparte had the falsehood to assert, that, till the 24th, he believed the admiral had either sailed for Corfu, or entered the port of Alexandria. But he knew that the admiral could not enter the port of Alexandria, and he had ordered him not to go to Corfu! "The general opinion," says Jaubert, "was that, as soon as the debarkation was effected we should have sailed for Corfu, where we were to be reinforced by ships from Malta, Toulon, and Ancona, and thus be prepared for all events. BUT THE GENERAL HAS DECIDED IT OTHERWISE!!!"

After what he called *organizing* Cairo, and after a general massacre of its inhabitants on the 24th of October, and the BURNING, &c. of Salmia, in Lower Egypt, he set out to plunder the Caravan, in Syria. This expedition was said to be destined against Achmed el Djezzar, the Pacha of Acre; but its real object was the plunder and overthrow of the Turkish empire, and more immediately the plunder of the Caravan, on its route to the city. After reducing El Arish, he entered Gaza, and on the 1st of March, 1799, moved his head quarters towards Jaffa. On the 17th he took the town by assault, and here followed that scene which makes so conspicuous a feature in his history, and from which all Europe revolts—THE COLD-BLOODED MASSACRE OF THREE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED PERSONS.

Mr. Morier, secretary to the Earl of Elgin, then the British ambassador at Constantinople, was the first who

who gave publicity, in Europe, to this horrible transaction. "Buonaparte," says he, "having carried the town of Jaffa by assault, many of the garrison were put to the sword; but the greater part flying into the mosques, and imploring mercy from their pursuers, were granted their lives; and let it be well remembered that an exasperated army in the moment of revenge, when the laws of war justified the rage, yet heard the voice of pity, received its impression, and proudly refused to be any longer the executioners of an unresisting enemy. Soldiers of the Italian Army, this is a laurel wreath worthy of your fame, a trophy of which the subsequent treason of an individual shall not deprive you.

"Three days afterwards Buonaparte, who had expressed much resentment at the compassion manifested by his troops, determined to relieve himself from the maintenance of *three thousand eight hundred* prisoners, ordered them to be marched to a rising ground near Jaffa; where a division of French infantry formed against them. When the Turks had entered into their fatal alignement, and the mournful preparations were completed, the signal gun fired. Vollies of musketry and grape instantly played against them; and Buonaparte, who had been regarding the scene through a telescope, when he saw the smoke ascending, could not restrain his joy, but broke out into exclamations of approval: indeed, he had just reason to dread the refusal of his troops thus to dishonor themselves. Kleber had remonstrated in the most strenuous manner, and the officer of the Etat Major who commanded (for the general to whom the division belonged was absent) even refused to execute the order without a writ-

 ten

ten instruction: but Buonaparte was too cautious, and sent Berthier to enforce obedience.

"When the Turks had all fallen, the French troops humanely endeavored to put a period to the sufferings of the wounded, but some time elapsed before the bayonet could finish what the fire had not destroyed, and probably many languished whole days in agony. Several French officers, by whom partly these details are furnished, declared, that this was a scene, the retrospect of which tormented their recollection, and that they could not reflect on it without horror; accustomed as they had been to sights of cruelty! These were the prisoners, whom Assalini, in his very able work on the plague alluded to, when he says, that for three days the Turks shewed no symptoms of that disease, and it was their putrifying remains which produced the pestilential malady which he describes as afterwards making such ravages in the French army. The bones still lie in heaps, and are shewn to every traveller who arrives; nor can they be confounded with those who perished in the assault; since the field of butchery lies a mile from the town.

"Such a fact should not, however, be alledged without some proof or leading circumstance stronger than assertion being produced to support it; but there would be a want of generosity in naming individuals, and branding them to the latest posterity, with infamy, for obeying a command, when their submission became an act of necessity; therefore to establish further the authority of the relation, this only can be mentioned—THAT IT WAS BON'S DIVISION WHICH FIRED, *and thus every one is afforded the opportunity of satisfying themselves respecting the truth, by enquiring*

of

of officers serving in the different brigades composing this division."

Notwithstanding the respectability of Mr. Morier, had his account of this affair stood solitary, suspicion might have thrown a doubt upon its veracity; but, unfortunately for the credit of Buonaparte, the most damning proofs of his infamy are on record, and Mr. Morier's testimony is amply supported.

Dr. Wittman, in his *Travels in Asiatic Turkey*, says:——" After a breach had been effected, the French troops stormed and carried the place. It was probably owing to the obstinate defence made by the Turks, that the French commander in chief was induced to give orders for the horrid massacre which succeeded. Four thousand of the wretched inhabitants, who had surrendered, and who had, in vain, implored the mercy of their conquerors, were, together with a part of the late Turkish garrison of El-Arish, (amounting, it has been said, to five or six hundred) dragged out in cold blood, *four days after the French had obtained possession of Jaffa*, to the sand-hills, in the way to Gaza, and there most inhumanly put to death. I have seen the skeletons of these unfortunate victims, which lie scattered over the hills, a modern Golgotha, which remains a lasting disgrace to a nation calling itself civilized."

Dr. Wittman, after stating the fact of his having visited the scene of this massacre, observes:——" The surface of the ground had been some time before thickly covered with the skeletons of the victims; but at the time of my visit they were much reduced in number; the Grand Vizier having ordered a large hole to be dug, into which as many as could be well collected

were thrown. Sculls, bones, remnants of clothing, &c. &c. were still, notwithstanding, scattered over every part of the hillocks."

In farther corroboration of this event, Sir Robert Wilson relates the following anecdote:——"Buonaparte had in person previously inspected the whole body, amounting to nearly five thousand men, *with the object of saving those who belonged to the towns he was preparing to attack.* The age and noble physiognomy of a veteran Janissary attracted his observation; and he asked him sharply, "Old man, what did you do here?" The Janissary undaunted, replied, "I must answer that question by asking you the same: your answer will be, that you came to serve your sultan; so did I mine." The intrepid frankness of the reply excited universal interest in his favour. Buonaparte even smiled. "He is saved," whispered some of the aides-du-camp. "You do not know Buonaparte," observed one who had served with him in Italy; "that smile, I speak from experience, does not proceed from benevolence; remember what I say." The opinion was too true. The Janissary was left in the ranks, doomed to death, and suffered."

The French General, Berthier, in his account of the taking of Jaffa, states, that "the garrison, *flying* before the French, *defended* itself with *fury*, and *refused* to lay down its arms: *it was put to the sword.* It was composed of one thousand two hundred cannoneers, and two thousand five hundred Mograbins, or Arnotes."—It might be inferred from this, that the *flying* garrison, was *killed upon the spot*, while *defending itself with fury*; but we have already seen, that the massacre was perpetrated *at a considerable distance from the town*;

town; and that, in point of time, *it was three or four days* AFTER the assault of the town. Buonaparte, in *his* official letter to the directory, rather corroborates than contradicts the statement of the English writers; for he says:—"At five o'clock, we were masters of the town which, *during twenty-four hours, was given up to pillage, and all the horrors of war.*" He adds:—"*Four thousand of Djezzar's troops, among whom were eight hundred cannoneers, were put to the sword;* PART OF THE INHABITANTS WERE MASSACRED." Thus, then, we have established the fact, from the pen of Buonaparte himself, that the massacre took place, *after* the town had been carried. He farther adds, that he had "been *merciful* with the Egyptians, *as well as with the* PEOPLE of Jaffa, but *severe with the garrison,* WHICH WAS TAKEN WITH ARMS IN ITS HANDS."

Buonaparte, although successful thus far, was destined soon to experience a check, the most severe which he had ever known, from the undaunted and glorious resistance of Sir Sydney Smith, at Acre. Preparatory to his march for that place, Buonaparte dispatched a hypocritical letter to Djezzar Pacha, recommending him to abstain from resistance, to become the friend of the French, and the enemy of the Mamelukes and the English; and in reward he should be taken into favour, and experience more good than he had previously met with evil. Djezzar, however, not to be deceived by so flimsy an artifice, returned only a verbal answer, implying that he would rather bury himself in the ruins of Acre, than suffer it to fall into the hands of Buonaparte. In expressing this resolution he was encouraged not only by his own force and the

the assistance of the Porte, but the unexpected aid of the genius, judgment, and valour of Sir Sydney Smith, and of Colonel Philipeaux, a French Royalist officer of engineers, who has been already mentioned in this sketch.* From our circumscribed limits it is impossible for us to enter into the details of the proceedings at Acre, so honourable to the besieged, and so disgraceful to the besiegers. Perhaps the best account that has appeared of those proceedings is contained in Sir Sydney Smith's official letters to the British government. For sixty days, without interruption, Buonaparte continued to attack, bombard, or assault the place. "We have the satisfaction," says Sir Sydney Smith, "on finding ourselves on the forty-sixth day of the siege, in a better state of defence than we were the first day the enemy opened their trenches; notwithstanding the increase of the breach, which they continued to batter with effect; and the garrison, having occasionally closed with the enemy, in several sorties, feel greater confidence that they shall be able to resist an assault, for which they are prepared."†

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* Sir Sydney Smith, it will be recollected, had been a prisoner to the French, in consequence of an exertion of personal bravery, in the Port of Havre. From the Temple, where he was confined, he was liberated, partly by the assistance of his friend Philipeaux, who effected his escape from France along with him.

† The following singular circumstance, so characteristic of the English sailor, is related in a very amusing work, recently published, entitled, *Naval Anecdotes: illustrating the Character of British Seamen, and recording the most impressive Examples of their Skill, Valour, Fortitude, and Magnanimity, which have occurred at various Periods, in every Quarter of the Globe.*

Daniel

Daniel Brian was an old seaman, and Captain of of the foretop, who had been turned over from the Blanche, into Sir Sydney Smith's ship Le Tigre. During the siege of Acre, this hardy veteran made repeated applications to be employed on shore; but, being an elderly man, and rather deaf, his request was not attended to. At the first storming of the breach by the French among the multitude of slain was one of the Generals of that nation. The Turks in triumph, struck off the head of this unfortunate officer, and, after having inhumanly mangled the body with their sabres, left it, naked, a prey to the dogs. Precluded from the rights of sepulture, it, in a few days became putrescent; a shocking spectacle, a dreadful memento of the horrors or war, the fragility of human nature, and the vanity of all sublunary ambition, hopes, and expectations. Thus exposed, when any of the sailors who had been on shore returned to their ship, enquiries were constantly made respecting the state of the deceased General. Dan frequently asked his messmates why they had not buried him? but the only reply that he received was, *Go and do it yourself.* Dan swore he would; observing that he had himself been taken prisoner by the French, who always gave their enemies a decent burial, not like those d——d Turks, leaving them to rot above-board. In the morning, having at length obtained leave to go and see the town, he dressed himself as though for an excursion of pleasure, and went ashore with the surgeon, in the jolly-boat. About an hour after, while the surgeon was dressing the wounded Turks in the hospital, in came honest Dan, who, in his rough good-natured manner, exclaimed, "I've been burying the general, Sir, and

now

nown I'm come to see the sick!" Not particularly attending to the tar's salute, but fearful of his catching the plague, the surgeon immediately ordered him out. Returning on board, the coxwain enquired of the surgeon, if he had seen old Dan? Yes, he has been burying the French general. It was then that Dan's words in the hospital first occurred. The boat's crew, who witnessed the generous action, an action truly worthy of a British sailor, in whose character are ever blended the noblest and the mildest virtues, thus related its circumstances:——The old man procured a pick-axe, a shovel, and a rope, and insisted on being let down, out of a port-hole, close to the breach. Some of his more juvenile companions offered to attend him; "No," he replied, "you are too young to be shot yet, as for me, I am old and deaf, and *my* loss would be no great matter." Persisting in his adventure, in the midst of the firing, Dan was slung and lowered down with his implements of action on his shoulder. His first difficulty, not a very trivial one, was to beat away the dogs. The French now levelled their pieces—they were on the instant of firing at the hero—it was an interesting moment!—but an officer, perceiving the friendly intentions of the sailor, was seen to throw himself across the file; instantaneously the din of arms, the military thunder ceased; a dead, a solemn silence prevailed, and the worthy fellow consigned the corpse to its parent earth. He covered it with mould and stones, placing a large stone at his head, and another at his feet. But Dan's task was not yet completed. The unostentatious grave was formed; but no inscription recorded the fate or character of its possessor. Dan, with the peculiar air of a British sailor,

took

ook a piece of chaulk from his pocket, and attempted to write,

"Here you lie, old Crop."

He was then, with his pickaxe and shovel, hoisted into the town, and the hostile firing immediately recommenced.

A few days afterwards Sir Sydney, having been informed of the circumstance, ordered old Dan to be called into the cabin. "Well Dan, I hear you have been burying the French general." "Yes your honour."—Had you any body with you?"—"Yes your honour." "Why Mr. ——— says you had not." "But I had, your honour."—"Ah! who had you?" "God Almighty, Sir."—"A very good assistant indeed. Give old Dan a glass of grog." "Thank your honour." Dan drank his grog and left the cabin highly gratified. He is now a pensioner in the Royal Hospital at Greenwich.

It was subsequent to this, that Buonaparte gave orders to change the plan of operations, and to effect a new breach. The English, however, discovered his intentions, and counteracted all his labours. A variety of unsuccessful attempts were made, until at length the dead bodies, over which Buonaparte had made his last assault, becoming putrid, generated diseases, and even the plague in the camp. At this period, General Berthier employing an Arabian dervise as a flag of truce, addressed a letter to Djezzar, in the name of the commmander-in-chief, desiring a suspension of arms till the dead could be buried, and the establishment of an exchange of prisoners effected. While this message was under consideration, and the flag

flag of truce waiting for an answer, Buonaparte, in defiance of every law of justice and humanity, commenced an assault, with a view of taking the town by surprize. Fortunately, however, the garrison was on its guard; and this act of desperate treachery met its due reward in defeat and disgrace. It has been stated, but we are in doubt as to the fact, that the dervise, having a dagger concealed beneath his robe, attempted the assassination of Sir Sydney Smith. At all events, it was with difficulty that Sir Sydney rescued him from the fury of those who considered him as a voluntary instrument in the treason which had been committed. The British commander gained a full and delightful revenge, by sending the dervise back to Buonaparte with a letter of reproof for his conduct, which, if he possessed the feelings of a man, must have overwhelmed him with shame.

Foiled in his attempt to reduce the fortress of Acre, Buonaparte, instead of returning as a conqueror, found himself obliged to retire like a fugitive. Previously to his retreat, however, he addressed a proclamation to his troops, complimenting them on having traversed the desert which separates Asia from Africa, with more rapidity than an army of Arabs; destroyed the army intended for the invasion of Egypt; frustrated an intended attack on Alexandria; and, though but a handful of men, carried on the war for three months in the heart of Syria. "You have taken," said he, "forty field-pieces, fifty standards, and six thousand prisoners; *razed* the fortifications of Gaza, Jaffa, Caiffa *and Acre*. *In a few days* you might have *hoped* to take the Pacha in the midst of his palace; but, at this season, *the capture of the castle of Acre*

Acre is not worth the loss even of a few days; besides, the brave men whom I must lose in the exploit are wanted for more essential operations."

We are now arrived at that part of our narrative, contrasted with which, all the rest loses its horrors. It was in his retreat from Acre, that *Buonaparte* poisoned five hundred and eighty of his own wounded soldiers! This detestable deed was first discovered to the world by Mr. Morier, on whose authority we state that it was committed at Caiffa, and not at Jaffa, as Sir Robert Wilson and Dr. Wittman have related.

To Sir Robert Wilson, however, who collected full particulars on the subject, we are indebted for the details:——

"Buonaparte," says he, "finding that his hospitals at Jaffa were crowded with sick, sent for a physician, whose name should be inscribed in letters of gold; but which, from weighty reasons, cannot be here inserted; on his arrival he entered into a long conversation with him respecting the danger of contagion, concluding at last, with the remark, that something must be done to remedy the evil, and *that the destruction of the sick at present in the hospital, was the only measure which could be adopted!* The physician, alarmed at the proposal, and bold in the confidence of virtue and the cause of humanity, remonstrated vehemently, representing the cruelty as well as the atrocity of such a murder; but finding that Buonaparte persevered and menaced, he indignantly left the tent, with this memorable observation: "*Neither my principles, nor the character of my profession, will allow me to become a human butcher; and, General, if such qualities as you insinuate, are necessary*

to form a great man, I thank my God that I do not possess them!'

"Buonaparte was not to be diverted from his object by moral considerations: he persevered, and found an apothecary, who, (dreading the weight of power, but who since has made an atonement to his mind, by unequivocally confessing the fact) consented to become his agent and to administer poison to the sick! Opium, at night, was distributed in gratifying food; the wretched unsuspecting victims banquetted, and, in a few hours, *five hundred and eighty soldiers, who had suffered so much for their country, perished thus miserably by the order of its idol!*

"If a doubt should still exist, as to the veracity of this statement, let the Members of the Institute at Cairo be asked, what passed at the sitting after the return of Buonaparte from Syria? they will relate, that the same virtuous physician, who refused to become the destroyer of those committed to his protection, accused Buonaparte of high treason in the full assembly, against the honor of France, her children and humanity: that he entered into the full details of the poisoning of the sick, and the massacre of the garrison, aggravating the crimes, by charging Buonaparte *with strangling, promiscuously, at Rosetta, a number of French and Copts, who were ill of the plague;* thus proving, that this disposal of the sick was a premeditated plan. In vain Buonaparte attempted to justify himself; the members sat petrified with terror, and almost doubted whether the scene passing before their eyes was not illusion."

This fact is farther authenticated by the French General, Danican. That gentleman, in the year 1801, at

at a lazaretto in Sicily, met with a number of French soldiers, just come from Alexandria. From one of them, who had witnessed the poisoning scene at Caiffa, he received the following anecdote.——"A grenadier, who had lost two brothers, was amongst the unfortunate wretches slightly afflicted with the pestilential disease. From what he had previously observed in the hospital, he had become more suspicious than his comrades in distress, and he had scarcely taken the *potion administered* when he immediately discharged it, made his way out of the hospital, and, escaping the guard, whom he contrived to pass unseen, he gained the column under the command of Kleber, at whose feet he threw himself, and in the intercession almost of despair, conjured him to let him mount one of the camels, describing what he had escaped from, and venting the most energetic maledictions on the commander-in-chief. The poor wretch, in the most piteous manner, assured General Kleber that he would keep at a distance from the army, so that they should not be in any danger of catching his disorder. Kleber granted his request; the grenadier was saved and recovered, and was alive when the English landed under the brave Abercrombie."

Of Buonaparte's retreat through Syria, we are not in possession of many particulars. General Berthier's account, however, sufficiently describes it as one of the most frightful scenes that ever ferocious power created. "On the 4th Prairial, at the post of Abuhabura, some wretched Napluzians, whose object was to pick up the picquets left by the army on its march were taken and shot."—"On the 5th, the parties were sent into the villages, the houses were reduced to ashes, the

the sheep carried off, the corn burnt."—"On the same day the army reached Jaffa, where it remained till the 8th. The time was employed in destroying the villages."—"On the 9th it marched; General Regnier's column, and that of the centre, were ordered to burn the villages and all the harvests."—"The army marched in this order: the plain was one conflagration"—"On the 13th it entered the desert, followed by a considerable number of cattle taken from the enemy. The desert, between El-Arish and Kan-Junés, is eleven leagues in extent. It is inhabited by Arabs, against whom, Buonaparte had subjects of complaint. We desolated their fields, we carried off their sheep and their camels, and burnt their scanty harvests which are obtained in some parts of the desert."

Such was the close of an expedition, the success of which Buonaparte had anticipated with the profane threat, that "should he ever obtain possession of JERUSALEM he would plant the TREE OF LIBERTY on the SPOT on which the CROSS of JESUS stood, and would BURY the first FRENCH GRENADIER who should fall in the attack, in the TOMB of our BLESSED SAVIOUR!!!"

After his return to Cairo, and defeat of the Turks at Aboukir, Buonaparte prepared to crown his campaign in Egypt, by flying from the dangers which surrounded the army he had led thither. To effect his escape, it was necessary that not an individual of the army should become acquainted with his intention; but as he could not move without being observed, and as it was unavoidable to give some explanation, if only to elude suspicion, he was reduced to the necessity of inventing the several falsehoods best adapted to the persons

persons on whom they were to be imposed. At Cairo, he wrote to the Divan, and no doubt published to the army, that he was setting out for Monouf, whence he proposed making different excursions in Lower Egypt; and under this pretence he arrived at Alexandria, where he ordered Admiral Ganthaume to prepare two frigates, who knew nothing of their destination. To the few persons whom Buonaparte designed to make the companions of his desertion, he sent sealed notes, with orders not to be opened till the 23d of August, at a certain hour of the night, and on the sea-shore. At that time accordingly these persons assembled, and at midnight a message from Buonaparte informed them, that he waited for them in the road. They left their baggage at their quarters and their horses on the beach, and within an hour cleared the port. At day-break, a north wind put them in their course, and in two days, to their excessive joy, they got out of the latitude of the British cruizers. Throughout their passage, their whole care was to steer such courses as might most effectually conceal them from the British. After being some days weather-bound at Ajaccio, the wind became favorable, and they put to sea. On the second day, with a fair breeze, and within sight of the coast of France, they were congratulating each other on their good fortune, when, to windward, they discovered seven sail. They lowered their topsails and still trusted to concealment. They heard the signals of the British fleet, which formed a semi-circle on the coast. It was debated whether they should return to Corsica, which was still in sight, but Buonaparte decided that they should proceed. At day-break they saw Frejus,

on

on the coast of Provence, where Buonaparte immediately landed.

Before he quitted Egypt, he had a secret conference with General Menou, in which he is said to have informed him, that Kleber, to whom he could not avoid leaving the command of the army, was inclined to evacuate the country, in the event of an honourable capitulation being to be obtained; and he ordered him, if Kleber should capitulate, to rid himself of him, and to take the command himself. Kleber did capitulate, and Menou executed his orders. The janissary, who assassinated Kleber, did not know his employer, but it has been confidently stated to have been Menou, under the orders of Buonaparte, who enabled him to enter the house of the general.

With what immediate designs Buonaparte returned to Europe, we do not pretend to say, but on the thirty-second day after his arrival at Frejus, he overturned the existing government, and took the sovereign authority into his own hands.—On the 7th of November, 1799, a meeting of a small number of deputies was held at the house of Le Mercier, the president of the Council of Ancients, and there the plan of operations for effecting his exaltation was resolved on.—On the 9th, the Council of Ancients, by eight o'clock in the morning, issued a decree, transferring to St. Cloud the Sittings of the Legislative Body, charging General Buonaparte with enforcing this article, and placing him at the head of the troops within the division which comprehends the metropolis. While this was preparing, he waited at his house in the *Rue des Victoires*, surrounded by a numerous staff. On receiving notice of its having passed, he went to the council in its

 chamber

chamber at the Tuilleries, where he read it; and afterwards made the following address:——

"*Citizens Representatives!*

"The Republic was perishing; you knew this, and your decree was given to save it. Woe to him who attempts its ruin or disturbance! I will make him my prisoner, and Generals Lefebre and Berthier and all my companions in arms will give me their assistance. Let there be none who delay the necessary steps through consultations of precedent; history contains nothing similar to the eighteenth century.

"Your wisdom has issued the decree; our arms shall put it in execution. We will have a republic founded on the true basis; on civil liberty, and national representation: we will, I swear it.—I swear it in my own name, and in that of my fellow-soldiers!"

At eleven o'clock, the gates of the Tuilleries were shut. About the same hour, Buonaparte reviewed the guards of the palace, and issued a proclamation to the troops in general, in which he set before them the prosperous situation of the country at the time he left it, and the disastrous one in which he found it.—On the news of the unexpected sitting of the Council of Ancients, the Directory assembled. Three out of the five (Barras, Goheir, and Maulin,) attended; Sieyes and Ducos did not. The three sent for the minister and commandant of Paris. Desiring an official explanation of the state of affairs, the commandant was informed of the decree that had passed, and by which he had been rendered a subaltern, his former authority being in the hands of Buonaparte.—The Directory

rectory saw that its power was no more. At noon, Barras sent his resignation to Buonaparte.--Moulin and Gohier were confined in the Luxembourg. The former made his escape, the latter, on the next day, received permission to go to his own house.

Buonaparte at length dissolved the Council of Five Hundred; and the Council of Ancients, going into a general committee, provisionally appointed him, with Sieyes and Ducos, Consuls of the French Republic.

His first act after his investiture with the provisional government, was to erect a new one, at the head of which he placed himself. Cambaceres and Lebrun succeeded Sieyes and Ducos, as second and third consuls. This constitution, called the constitution of the year eight, was published at Paris on the 24th of Frimaire, or the 15th of December, 1799.

On the 26th of December, he thought proper to attempt the abrogation of one of the most important usages of the British empire, (that in conformity with which, the crown scarcely ever acts but through the medium of its servants) by addressing a letter directly to the King of England, on the subject of peace. An answer was returned in the accustomed manner, and that answer held out little prospect of peace. All his efforts for the attainment of this object failed, and Buonaparte found himself obliged to continue the war, against England, Austria, Germany, and the contingent of Sweden. Meanwhile La Vendée was the scene of civil discord.

While the campaign commenced in Switzerland, Italy, and on the Rhine, Buonaparte remained in Paris, occupied in tranquillizing La Vendée, and with other internal affairs; but in the month of March he

assembled

assembled an army of reserve at Dijon, which he ordered to march towards Switzerland, and which he joined at Mount St. Bernard, where he had determined to pass the Alps. This passage he effected; and on the 15th of May, came up with the enemy at Aosta, a town of Piedmont, which he entered, after a victory, and the capture of twelve hundred prisoners. Having changed the government of the Milanese, he proceeded to Lodi, where, at the price of the most dreadful slaughter of his troops, he passed the Po. This slaughter is said to have been unnecessarily incurred, the Po being easily fordable, within a short distance of Lodi. The Austrians, however, were thus driven from a position which with respect to all human probability had appeared impregnable. The passage of the Po, was succeeded by the victory of Montebello, and that by the battle of Marengo, which decided the fate of the campaign.

The Austrians commenced the battle at day-break; but it was late in the morning before the French could ascertain the plan of their attack; at length they discovered them, advancing in three columns. Buonaparte arrived at the scene of action at eleven o'clock. The battle was then raging at all points. The French were formed in two lines, with their wings supported by strong bodies of cavalry. The line of the Austrians extended above six miles. Dessaix, with the reserve was ordered to advance, but he was thirty miles behind. The left under General Victor, gave way. Buonaparte bore down himself to the division of Lannes, to slacken its retreat. The French commenced a general but orderly retreat. The centre fell back, the Austrians dislodged and turned their wings, particularly

ly on the right, and threatened to cut them off from head-quarters on the left. The garrison of Tortona made a sortie, and they were thus surrounded on all sides.

They had nothing left defencible, except a defile, through which their retreat lay. Their artillery partly dismounted, had, besides very little amunition. Thirty pieces of cannon well served, thundered through the valley upon them, cutting to pieces men and trees, and overwhelming them with masses of earth and stone.

The Austrians were not able to force the defile, but they drew up a strong line of artillery, under cover of which, they threw their infantry into the vineyards and woods. Their cavalry waited behind to watch the moment of disorder among the French. If this manœuvre had succeeded, the day must have been inevitably lost by the French.

In this critical moment, the divisions of Mounier and Dessaix began to appear; and Melas made a movement by which, in the event, he lost all his advantages. Finding the strength of the French in their centre, he extended his wings, imagining by this means he should be able to surround them, and cut off their retreat. Melas was ignorant of the reinforcement which the French were at the same instant receiving, and but for which his plan might have been successful. Buonaparte, however, seized the moment. He added to the strength of his centre, and broke the Austrian line. Dessaix and the younger Kellerman cut off the left, whilst General Murat, with his cavalry and the centre of the army, harassed their centre and followed

up

up the retreat. Dessaix in the moment of his triumph, received a mortal wound from a musket ball.

The Austrians had still a third line of infantry, supported by the rest of their artillery and cavalry. This was routed and driven back. They crossed the bridge of Bormida in disorder, but continued fighting, till night put an end to the battle. The day after, an armistice was concluded upon, and in the end, Austria entered into the treaty of Luneville.

It has been said, that at this battle, Buonaparte, resolving on punishing certain grenadiers who did not zealously support him on the 18th and 19th Brumaire, in the Hall of the Five Hundred, placed them in a situation, where, out of eleven hundred, eight hundred were killed. The honor of the victory is stated to be wholly due to Dessaix and the younger Kellerman, and Buonaparte is accused of having shunned the fight, and remained trembling in the village.

Buonaparte returned to Milan, and travelled thence to Lyons, from which city he proceeded to Paris.—During the congress of Luneville, he offered to negociate with England, provided she consented to a naval truce; an artifice, however, in which he was foiled, by a direct refusal.

In the month of October, 1800, a conspiracy was formed against the life of Buonaparte. This failed, but in December another attempt was made. It was designed to assassinate him by means of a barrel of gun-powder placed in his way to the opera, and which was to have been blown up at the instant he passed it; but the explosion did not take place till he had passed. The assassins, however, were put to death.

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Great Britain being now the only active enemy of the Republic, Buonaparte employed all his arts and influence in exciting such a spirit amongst his own subjects, and in establishing such a system amongst the other powers of Europe, as would promote his views of crushing, and, if possible, of destroying the British nation. Every commotion in France, every attempt of expiring factions, every crime dictated by political enthusiasm or personal vengeance, was imputed to the secret agency of the British Administration. But while England maintained the indisputable sovereignty of the ocean, the effect of the Consul's hatred was little to be feared. To counteract, therefore, the ascendancy of the British naval power, Buonaparte availed himself of some jealousies and disputes between England and two of the northern powers; and, by one of those strange turns of politics which sometimes derange the best projects of human wisdom and foresight, the Emperor Paul, of Russia, totally departing from those principles which had entitled him to the applause of Europe, became the zealous partizan of French usurpation, and the prime mover of a league with Sweden and Denmark, which was fabricated under the auspices of Buonaparte, for the intended ruin of Britain. The victory of Copenhagen, achieved by the illustrious and departed Nelson, and the premature death of the unhappy Paul, the insane victim of French influence, best display the result of this absurd, impolitic, and unjust confederacy.

Foiled in this attempt, in the maturing of which much pains had been taken, Buonaparte continued to receive information of the victories and progress of the British arms in Egypt, and determined to compass by cunning,

cunning, what he could not effect by prowess. For nearly six months, therefore, Citizen Otto, the commissioner for negotiating the exchange of prisoners in this country, continued to correspond with the French and English governments, on the subject of peace; the preliminaries of which, however, were not signed until he had ascertained, that, by the surrender of Alexandria to Lord Hutchinson, no Frenchman commanded any longer in Egypt.

Previously to the signing of the Definitive Treaty, Buonaparte, by a *ruse d'Etat*, made a seizure of the island of Elba; but this little spot was insufficient to satisfy his cravings, and the Italian Republic, Parma, Placenza, and Placentia speedily followed. Europe seemed astonished at the rapid succession of events; but Europe possessed no power sufficiently spirited or independant to resist the innovating system of plunder.

Exulting in the terms of the Treaty of Amiens, so advantageous to the government of France, scarcely, as Mr. Windham observed, was the wax cold upon that instrument, when the First Consul commenced his literary attacks on the laws and constitution, the rights and liberties of the English. Immediately *Le Mercure de France*, a sort of demi-official print, and then edited by the Consul's brother Joseph, made a proud display of the aggrandizement of France. The TREATY was "found to be *more advantageous, more glorious to France than the* PRELIMINARIES;" the debt of that country to Britain, for the maintenance of prisoners, was reduced; her possessions in Africa were sacred; Malta, according to the French construction of the treaty, was completely under the domination of Buonaparte; the

French and their allies had gained their naval independance; they might "*one day* have *their* ACT OF NAVIGATION, and they had already obliged England, "*to swell her expenditure*, by increasing her militia."

After signing the peace with Britain, the establishment of the First Consulship for life, with the privilege of *secretly* nominating a successor, was the first important achievement of Buonaparte; and a new constitution of church and state attended this assumption of more than regal power. Alas! the new laws were not such as would have emanated from the breast of a sage legislator, solicitous for the preservation, happiness, and glory of his people; they were the military regulations of a camp, where severity of discipline is the primary excellence. The religious code was indeed, more artfully designed; for Buonaparte knew, or at least some of his counsellors knew, that however deeply immersed in profligacy and guilt a nation may be, still superstition will retain a strong hold on the minds of the vulgar. He was aware, in this instance, of the necessity of securing the attachment of the people; and he knew, in contradiction to the absurdly-wicked theories of his predecessors—and Portalis acknowledged, and every being possessed of the common attributes of reason *must* acknowledge—that no government, however specious in its civil and criminal regulations, can possibly exist independantly of an established religion. Atheism had been weighed in the balance, and was found wanting.

In England, as soon as the treaty was concluded, his Majesty's courts of law were open to the people of France, for every purpose of judicial redress; all sequestrations were taken off their property, and all prohibitions

hibitions on their trade removed. Buonaparte, on the contrary, enforced with increased strictness and severity every prohibition which had been placed on the commerce of his Majesty's subjects during the war; violence was offered in several instances to their vessels and property; and, in no case, was justice afforded to those who were aggrieved in consequence of such acts, nor any satisfactory answer given to the repeated representations of his Majesty's minister or ambassador at Paris. But what increased the impropriety of this conduct, while his Majesty's subjects were not suffered to enjoy, in the territories of the French Republic, the common advantages of peace, Buonaparte sent into the United Kingdom a number of persons for the professed purpose of residing in its most considerable sea-port towns, in the character of commercial agents; a character in which they could have no pretensions to be acknowledged, because those pretensions could be founded only on a commercial treaty, and such treaty was not in existence. There was consequently too much reason to suspect that the real object of their commission was by no means of a commercial nature; and this suspicion was confirmed, not only by the circumstance that some of them were military men, but by the actual discovery that several of them were furnished with instructions to obtain soundings of the harbours, and to procure military surveys of the places at which it was intended they should reside. These persons, however, by the firmness of the British government, were prevented from departing to their respective places of destination.

The *official* attacks on the respective branches of government of this country, and particularly on the li-

berty of the press, that glorious *palladium* of our constitution, next indicated the envy and hatred of the First Consul. The most insidious and the most infuriated libels against every thing great and estimable in our island, day after day, and week after week, disgraced the columns of the Moniteur. Buonaparte had annihilated the liberties of France, and he was anxious to reduce Britain to the same deplorable level. The administration of this country, was sedulously anxious—perhaps too sedulously anxious—for the preservation of peace, and evinced the utmost willingness of concession, as far as honor would permit; but they chose not to sacrifice the unalienable rights of the people; and the truly eloquent defence of the British press, by Lord Hawkesbury, in reply to a remonstrance from M. Otto, reflects the brightest lustre on the talents and conduct of that statesman.

It is well, said Shakespeare, to possess the strength of a giant, but not to use it like a giant. In the final subjugation of the unfortunate Swiss, which subsequently took place, Buonaparte thought otherwise. They were *free* and *happy*, consequently not on an *equality* with Frenchmen. Britain remonstrated in their favor, but the fiat of the Chief Consul had been issued, and her remonstrance proved of no avail.

Firmly fixed in his designs on the future possession of Egypt, the island of Malta was regarded by Buonaparte as an important object; and, bending the *spirit* of the Treaty of Amiens to its *letter*, no artifice was omitted whereby to obtain it. Sebastiani, too, one of the Consul's commercial spies, was unwearied in his efforts to tarnish the honor of the British character throughout the dominions of the Porte, while his resi-

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dent agents, in this country were as anxious to afford every species of information which could tend to our ultimate ruin. Respecting the mission of Sebastiani, we blush for Buonaparte, when we think of the paltry subterfuge to which he was reduced when defending it; alledging that the mission was undertaken for the purpose of refuting the calumnies and false assertions of Sir Robert Wilson; although it was known, that Sebastiani's journey was nearly completed before Sir Robert's publication had seen the light.

It is here worthy of notice, that year after year, Buonaparte, by some change or other, once or oftener, violated that constitution which made him a First Consul. In 1800, the return of the emigrants and of the proscribed clergy; in 1801, the Concordat with the Pope; in 1802, the amnesty for the emigrants, and the consulate for life; in 1803, the legion of honor—all of them despotical acts and institutions, contrary to the very letter of the republican code, which he, in 1799, had so solemnly sworn to respect.

The first serious alarm which this country received, proceeded from the formidable preparations which were making in the sea-ports of France, during a time of profound peace. It has since also been ascertained, that during the whole period of the peace of Amiens, secret committees, composed of disaffected and traiterous Irishmen met regularly at Paris, under the connivance, or rather sanction of the First Consul. A paper of instructions too, from the ex-bishop Talleyrand to General Andreossi, *previously* to the embassy of the latter to Great Britain, bearing every internal mark of authenticity, was handed about in Paris, and afterwards reached London. That paper displayed so

complete

complete a tissue of deep laid artifice, and so clearly developed the hypocritically malevolent views of the consul towards us, *during the time of peace*, that we can find no language strong enough to mark our detestation of the character by whom it was planned.

Buonaparte's intention of invading the island of Britain, was fulminated from every quarter; and that such was his intention at that time, little doubt, we believe, can be entertained. To the consul's *candid* declaration of his views, we perhaps owe our present safety; for never was our navy in so flourishing a state as at present; including our regulars, our militia, and our volunteers, never before had we so formidable a defensive force; nor ever, excepting, perhaps, in the latter part of the seven years war, under Lord Chatham's administration, were the people so cordially unanimous in their support of government, as they have been during the whole of the present contest.

Scarcely was the sword of war unsheathed, when a new act of unprecedented cruelty and injustice marked the tyrannous reign of Buonaparte. The infatuated English, induced to remain in France and Holland by fallacious promises of safety, were now detained as prisoners of war; and, to this day, numbers of them have not been liberated. That those persons have any very high claim to our commiseration, we certainly shall not contend: enough had been said and written to apprise them of their danger, and they knew to whom they were trusting; but their folly affords no excuse for the injustice of Buonaparte; he insidiously induced them to stay, and then, in defiance of all precedent, prevented their return.

Every thing English, or appertaining to England, seemed

seemed a fit object for the vengeance of the consul. Hanover, a possession of the King of England, by electoral right, was next seized. The neutrality of Hanover had been acknowledged and respected in former wars; but here again, justice, precedent, and presumptive right, were set at defiance.

Envious of the commercial influence of Britain, and, ever aiming at the reduction of that influence, Buonaparte's next step was to occupy the neutral territories on the banks of the Elbe and the Weser, thinking, by that means, to prevent the admission of British, or British colonial produce, on the continent. Had the neutral powers noticed, as they ought to have done, this gross violation of their rights, the French would have been peremptorily compelled to retire within their own boundaries, and the trade of the continent would have remained unfettered; but, seemingly fearful of the imposing prowess of the consul, they offered no efficient opposition to his movements, and his will continued to be the only regulation of his conduct. Britain, however, with true policy, accompanied by as genuine magnanimity, immediately commenced the blockade of the Elbe and the Weser, announcing, that whenever the French troops withdrew from their banks, it should be as promptly removed.

The Batavian republic, being under the immediate influence of France, declared against this country; as did also the Italian and Ligurian republics, with the presidentship of which Buonaparte had invested himself, in violation of the laws of France. The energies of Portugal, formerly our cordial friend and ally, were paralysed; Spain, to her severe loss, was ultimately dragged

dragged into the contest; and we have recently evinced a disposition in Prussia, from whom we had a right to expect a more honorable line of conduct, to take part against us.

It was in the spring of 1804, that Buonaparte, aspiring to the extreme height of honour, power, and dignity, determined on ascending the throne of the Bourbons, and of assuming the title of emperor of the French. The ceremony of his coronation, however, which was destined to be solemnized by the hands of the pope, was postponed until the close of the year. In the interim he made an excursion throughout his dominions, reviewed his armies, and inspected the docks and arsenals of France. On his birth-day he was at Boulogne, where, seated on a throne which belonged to one of the kings of France, of the first race, surrounded by his guards and high officers of state, with his army in sight, he, with almost unexampled pomp, distributed the insignia of the Eagle to the Legion of Honour. After visiting various other places, he proceeded to Aix-la-Chapelle, where he received and acknowledged Count Cobentzel as ambassador from the Emperor of the Romans, and of Austria, to the emperor of the French. At Aix-la Chapelle also several princes of Germany paid their respects to him in person.

Among the numerous instances of ignominy, outrage, and injustice, by which the career of Buonaparte has been distinguished, the seizure of Sir George Rumbold, the English ambassador to the Circle of Lower Saxony, which took place in the month of October, should be duly noticed. It was on the 25th of that month, about two o'clock in the morning, that

that a body of French hussars, about two hundred and fifty in number, secretly crossed the Elbe and surrounded the house of the English minister, which was situated on the territory of Hamburgh. The person of Sir George Rumbold, and all his papers, were seized by this military party, put into a carriage, and conveyed to Paris. Much as the city of Hamburgh had been accustomed to the insults and depredations of France, her senate and citizens felt the most lively shock of surprize and sorrow at this event. They addressed a note to the foreign ministers residing at Hamburgh, and dispatched a remonstrance to the King of Prussia, claiming his protection as director of the Circle of Lower Saxony, the neutrality of which had been thus shamefully violated. Mr. Jackson also, the English resident at the court of Berlin, presented a note to the Prussian government, in consequence of which measures the Moniteur announced the liberation of Sir George Rumbold, " through the protection of the King of Prussia;" adding that, " if the proceedings against this worthy associate of Drake, Spencer Smith, and Taylor, had been completed, they would have furnished instances as remarkable as those of his accomplices." It should here be observed, that the gentlemen mentioned in the preceding sentence, had been some time previously implicated in the charge of a pretended conspiracy against the French government. It was in consequence of this pretended conspiracy, that the able and experienced General Moreau was transported to America; that the royalist chief, Georges, with eleven others, suffered death; that the gallant Pichegru was basely and meanly assassinated in the Temple; and that the ever to be

be lamented Duke of Enghien, the amiable relative of Louis the Sixteenth, after having been forcibly dragged from a neutral territory, was inhumanly murdered in the Bois de Boulogne, by the remorseless order of the butchering usurper.

We pass from this scene of horror, which humanity must ever contemplate with curses, to an exhibition more dazzling and splendid, though scarcely less infamous. We allude to the coronation of Buonaparte, which took place on the 2d of December, 1804. His holiness the Pope, without whose presence the farce would have been incomplete in the eyes of Buonaparte, arrived at Fontainbleau with his suite on the 25th of November; from which period till the 1st of December, the time was spent in visits and other state ceremonies, between the *new* monarch and the *Vicar-General of Christ!* Early in the morning of that day, the senate proceeded in a body to the palace of the Tuilleries, where the Pope and Buonaparte were already arrived, and were presented to his *Imperial Majesty* by his *Highness, Prince Joseph, Grand Elector*, now *king of Naples*, &c. &c. &c.!!! His Excellency the President of Neufchateau, addressed his *Majesty* in a loud speech, to which his *Majesty* thought proper to reply in the following terms:—"I ascend the throne, to which the unanimous wishes of the senate, the people, and the army have called me, with a heart penetrated with the great destinies of that people, whom, from the midst of camps, I first saluted with the name of Great. From my youth, my thoughts have been solely fixed upon them; and I must add here, that my pleasures and my pains are derived entirely from the happiness or misery of my people. My descendants shall long preserve this

throne.

throne. In the field they will be the first soldiers of the army, sacrificing their lives for the defence of their country. As magistrates, they will never forget, that contempt of the laws, and the confusion of social order, are only the result of the imbecility and uncertainty of princes. You, senators, whose counsels and support have never failed me in the most difficult circumstances, your spirit will be handed down to your successors. Be ever the prop and first counsellors of that throne, so necessary to the welfare of this vast empire."

On the same day the tribunate complimented his *Majesty*; and the senate, tribunate, and council of state, delivered complimentary speeches to the Pope. On the 2d, the coronation and consecration were performed by the Pope, in the church of Notre Dame; the procession and ceremony being attended with every possible circumstance of pomp. The emperor bore a sceptre of silver, with a golden serpent twined round it, and surmounted with a globe, sustaining a figure of Charlemagne. His oath concluded with these words: "I mean to govern solely with a view to the interest, the happiness, and glory of the French nation." No accident happened during the whole day. The 3d of December was a day of rejoicing throughout Paris. In the morning, heralds at arms marched through all the principal streets, distributing medals of various sizes, destined to commemorate the coronation. On one side was the figure of the emperor bearing the crown of the Cæsars, with this legend—*Napoleon, Emperor*: on the reverse were these words—*Le Senat et le Peuple*. The day passed with fetes in every quarter, and closed with illuminations and fire-works.

Buonaparte, notwithstanding his original obscurity, seemed to find himself perfectly *au fait* in his new situation. At the opening of the legislative body, in the ensuing month, (January, 1805) he addressed the members, as princes, magistrates, soldiers, citizens. "Soldier, or First Consul," said he, "I had only one sentiment--as Emperor, I retain the same, and that is, a wish for the prosperity of the French people. I have been fortunate enough to contribute to this object by my victories, to consolidate it by treaties, to stem the torrent of civil discord, and to pave the way for the restoration of manners, society, and religion. If I am not cut off by death, in the midst of my labours, I hope to be able to leave to posterity a recollection, which will either serve as an example or reproach to my successors."

Buonaparte had once, previously to his emperorship, taken the vain liberty of addressing a letter to his Majesty, the king of England; but as this mark of attention was not regarded as an honour on the part of his Britannic Majesty, the epistle was answered by Lord Grenville. It is presumed, however, that finding himself elevated to the dignity of an *emperor*, he conceived that he might venture, with better hopes of success, to address a personage of the humbler rank of king. Accordingly, at another sitting of the legislative body, in the month of February, we find certain French counsellors of state, laying before that assembly a copy of a letter which had been written by Buonaparte to the king of England. This letter *modestly* addressed his Majesty in the style of *Sir and Brother*. It began with stating that Buonaparte was called to the throne of France by Providence, and by the suffrage of the senate, the people,

people, and the army! it plainly acknowledged, that England and France might continue at war for ages, but maintained that they only abused their power, and that their governments did not fulfil the most sacred of their duties in continuing the contest. Buonaparte observed, that he did not consider it as any disgrace to take the first step; and conjured his Majesty not to deny himself the happiness of giving peace to the world, nor to leave that sweet satisfaction to his children; as, the present moment once lost, all his efforts would not be able to terminate the war. *His Majesty*, (the new emperor) he asserted, had gained more within ten years, both in territory and in riches, than the whole extent of Europe. The war, he stated, was without an object, without any presumable result to *His Majesty*. The world was sufficiently large for our two nations to live in; and reason was sufficiently powerful to discover means of reconciling every thing when the wish of reconciliation existed on both sides.—Notwithstanding this very fine and specious reasoning, and notwithstanding this very able display of philanthropy in the humane emperor, his Britannic Majesty, we believe, deigned not to answer his *brother* monarch.

In the spring of 1805, Buonaparte obtained a new accession of dignity, in being proclaimed king of Italy: "we have accepted," said he, in his address to the senators on this occasion, "and will place upon our head the iron crown of the ancient Lombards, in order to re-temper and consolidate it so that it may not be broken by the shocks by which it will be threatened as long as the Mediterranean continues out of its habitual state. But we do not hesitate to declare, that

we will transfer that crown to one of our children, natural or adopted, the moment we are freed from alarms for that independence we have guaranteed to the States of the Mediterranean."

The coronation of the new monarch took place at Milan, on the 24th of May, some of the senators from Genoa assisting at the ceremony, and, on the following day an extraordinary sitting of the Ligurian Senate was holden, when it was decreed that Genoa and its territories should be annexed to the French empire. This meeting was also distinguished by the presentation of Prince Eugene Beauharnois, the Emperor's son-in-law, as Viceroy of Italy.

A new aspect of affairs now began to present itself upon the continent, there being every appearance of a war, in which Russia and Austria would unite their respective forces against France. Buonaparte affected surprise at the military preparations which were going forward in Germany, and caused a State Paper to be delivered to the Ministers of the Diet of Ratisbon; in which he pretended to lament, that whilst he was encouraging the most friendly wishes towards Austria, and was intent only on the invasion of England, he should be called off, from that just object of his ambition, to watch the menacing movements of the Imperial Army.——The continental confederacy, however, was too firmly compacted to be then dissolved by any remonstrance on the part of Buonaparte.. The declaration of the court of St. Petersburgh exhibited the fixed and inflexible resolution of Russia to enforce her claim by war, or should she submit to a negociation, to maintain a state of armed truce, while the articles were pending. The Emperor Alexander considered himself

himself as under the solemn obligation of rescuing the States of Europe from French predominance, and of affording them his immediate effectual assistance. For this purpose he had caused two armies of fifty thousand men each to march through Gallicia to the Danube, as a measure of precaution, in order to continue the support of a powerful army of observation, which army would be in a situation to prevent all further aggressions during the period of pacification.

Austria was still more explicit in stating the object of her armament. "The Emperor" says the declaration of the court of Vienna, "arms, not with hostile views; he arms not to operate a diversion against a landing in England. Besides, the execution of this descent, after two years menaces, does not seem to be exactly calculated for the moment. France provokes Austria and Russia by enterprizes which have no relation whatever to the quarrel with Great Britain. The Emperor arms for the maintenance of the peace existing between him and France. He arms for the maintenance of those pacific stipulations, without which his peace would become illusory, and to attain that just equipoise which depends on the moderation of all the powers interested, and which is calculated to secure the balance and the permanent tranquillity of Europe."

The progress, and unfortunate result of the campaign which ensued, are fresh in the recollection of every reader. Buonaparte withdrew his troops from the coast, headed them in person, issued an order for a new conscription of 180,000 men to supply the waste of war, and by forced marches proceeded to attack the confederates. It is impossible to enter into details; suffice it therefore to state, that, in the course of a fortnight

fortnight, from the 29th of September, the French army reached Bavaria; and, in fact, placed itself almost in the rear of the opposing battalions. On the evening of the 6th of October, Marshal Soult's division, after some skirmishing, took possession of the bridge of Donawert. On the 8th, Murat and Marshal Lasnes attacked, defeated, and captured, a whole division of Austrians at Wertingen. This combat was followed in the space of a few hours, by an action at Gunsburgh, where the Austrians were again defeated. On the eleventh of October, Buonaparte arrived at Augsburgh; on the twelfth, another action was fought, in which the French under Soult were again successful; and, on the same day, General Bernadotte took possession of Munich, whence Prince Ferdinand of Austria had retired. Every thing now indicated the approach of a general and decisive battle. General Mack was in Ulm, with upwards of 33,000 men, menaced by the French Emperor at the head of a victorious army. To the astonishment and concern of the allies, General Mack, without striking a blow, agreed to terms of capitulation offered by the enemy. On the 15th Marshal Bernadotte could boast of having taken from the Austrians, in about three days, 1500 prisoners, 19 pieces of cannon, besides horses and baggage, without *the loss of a single man.* On the same day the Emperor Buonaparte took possession of Memmingen, and was on the 17th, by articles of capitulation, as good as in possession of Ulm. On that day, General Mack agreed, under certain conditions, to give up Ulm on the 25th, unless there should appear by that time an army in his favour capable of raising the blockade, in which case the garrison of the fortress was to be completely released

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from the articles of capitulation. The General, however, from motives which have never been ascertained, chose not to await the events of eight days, but had an audience of Buonaparte on the 19th, and agreed to evacuate Ulm on the 20th, five days earlier than the time which had been previously stipulated. In consequence of this arrangement Buonaparte took his station from two o'clock in the morning of the 20th, to seven in the evening, on the heights near Ulm.—Thus ended the first part of the campaign in Germany. On the 24th of September, Buonaparte had not left his capital, and on the 20th of October, a period of only twenty-six days, he could boast of having taken sixty thousand prisoners and upwards, with comparatively but a small loss of men and other resources. In his address to his soldiers, he says, "I had announced to you a great battle, but, thanks to the ill-contrived plans of the enemy, I have been able to obtain the greatest successes, without running any risk; and what is unexampled in the history of nations, so great a result has not weakened us above one thousand five hundred men."

Some attempts at negotiation seemed at this time to be made by the Prussian monarchy; notwithstanding which Buonaparte proceeded in his determination to humble, or, if possible, to crush the House of Austria. With this view, after the capture of Ulm, he rushed forward, intimidated neither by the numerous body of Russians which was collecting in Hungary, and Wallachia, nor the levy en masse throughout the Austrian dominions.——On the 2d of November, Murat left Rhied; and after several skirmishes with some bodies of the Austrians and Russians, forced them to Lambach;

bach; almost at the same time, another division of the French army took possession of that town; whilst a third division, under Marshal d'Avoust, keeping their great object—Vienna, in view, advanced beyond Lambach to Steyer. Marshal Soult being now at Wells; Lasnes, near Lintz; and General Marmont on his march for the purpose of turning the Austrian position on the banks of the Enns; while d'Avoust pushed his fore-post near to Steyer; and the Austrians, fearful of being turned by Marmont, relinquished their position on the Enns, and quitted their posts in every part of the country. A party of the army endeavoured to escape by the road to Carinthia, but were cut off by Kellerman. Murat next took possession of Lintz, where he got considerable plunder and military stores. On the 3d of November, he fixed his head quarters at Lambach. On the 5th General Duroc, at the head of a body of Bavarians fell in at Lovers with the advanced guard of a column of five Austrian regiments, coming from Italy, completely defeated it, and took four hundred prisoners, and some cannon. At the Enns also, the French were victorious. Thus did they advance, almost without resistance, till they arrived at St. Polten, within a few leagues of Vienna; where a deputation of the three Upper States, ten of the Burgesses, and two counsellors from the magistracy, repaired by permission of the Emperor, to the French camp, to open to the commander the intentions of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, that, wishing to preserve the inhabitants of the capital from the terror of a defence, he would deliver up Vienna to the Emperor of the French, fully relying on his justice and generosity. Arrangements were immediately made for the accommodation

dation of the French troops, and for the maintenance of tranquillity. On the 7th of November, the Emperor of Austria (who on that day had left Vienna for Presburgh, on his way to Olmutz), dispatched Count Giulay to Buonaparte, to propose an armistice; the answer which he received was, that his Majesty (Buonaparte) being at the head of two hundred thousand men, was not in a situation to treat with a flying army. Buonaparte, however, gave Count Giulay a letter for the Emperor of Austria, the purport of which was, that he was willing to grant an armistice, on condition that the Tyrol, Venice, and the strong forts of Germany, should be put into his possession. On learning these terms, which were equal to a surrender of the Austrian states and crown at discretion, the Emperor Francis dropped his solicitation, and published a manifesto to his people, in which he declared his resolution not to make a separate peace, but, relying on the united assistance of Russia and Prussia, to pursue his fortune to the utmost, and not to submit to France but in an extremity, in which it should be impossible to resist.——After the deputation from Vienna had conferred with Murat, a considerable corps of French troops approached; and on the 12th of November, they entered the capital of Austria, with twenty thousand men in the suburbs, and about five thousand in the citadel.

Notwithstanding the loss of Vienna, the declaration of the Emperor Francis infused new hopes into the confederates, and they looked forward to Bohemia and Hungary, as furnishing inexhaustible sources of loyalty and fidelity to embody troops in the hour of danger. On the 18th of November, however, Murat entered

Brunn,

Brunn, two days after the Emperor Francis had left it: he there found sixty pieces of cannon, immense quantities of amunition, and every thing else that was necessary for recruiting the army.

Buonaparte, it appears, on the 27th of November, offered an armistice, which was rejected; and, on the 28th the Emperor of Russia went to Wischau, and the whole Russian army took up its position behind that city. Buonaparte, with a view of obtaining a better position, three leagues in the rear of his present ground, made a feint of retreat in the night, and also pretended an anxious desire of fortifying his camp. He proposed an interview with the Emperor of Russia, who, refusing to accede to the proposal himself, sent one of his aids-de-camp. This officer, completely misled by the manœuvres and arts of Buonaparte, returned with the most delusive account of the state of things in the French camp. Some of the veteran Austrian Generals ventured to warn their master of the folly of confiding in such a report; but their advice was rejected. The important day of the 2d of December at length arrived, which was to decide the fate of empires. At one in the morning Buonaparte got on horseback to visit the posts, reconnoitre the lines of the enemy, and get an account of what the guards had learnt of the movements of the Russians. He heard that they had passed the night in drunkenness and noise, and that a corps of Russian infantry had appeared in the village of Sokolnitz, occupied by a regiment of the division under General Legrand, who had orders to reinforce it.——At sun-rise, orders for the attack were given, and in an instant every field marshal joined his corps. A moment afterwards the cannonade began at the extremity

tremity of the right, which the enemy's advanced guard had already outflanked, but the unexpected meeting with Marshal d'Avoust, stopped the enemy's shot, and the battle began.——Marshal Soult put himself in motion at the same moment, proceeded to the heights of the village of Protzen, with General Vandamme and St. Hilaire's division, and cut off the right of the allies, whose movements became uncertain. Surprized by a flank march, whilst it was flying, believing itself to be attacking, and seeing itself attacked, it considered itself as half defeated.——Murat was in motion with his cavalry.—The left wing, under the command of General Lannes, marched forward also *en echelons*, by regiments, in the same manner as if they had been exercising by divisions. A tremendous cannonade took place along the whole line, two hundred pieces of cannon, and nearly two hundred thousand men, made a dreadful noise. It was a real giant combat. Not an hour had elapsed and the enemy's whole left was cut off; their right had already reached Austerlitz, the head quarters of the two emperors, who marched immediately to the Emperor of Russia's guard, to endeavour to restore the communication of the centre with the left. A battalion of the fourth line was charged by the Imperial Russian Guard on horseback, and routed; but Buonaparte was at hand; he perceived their movement; ordered Marshal Bessieres to the succour of his right, with his Invincibles, and the two guards were soon engaged.——Success could not be doubtful; in a moment the Russian guard was routed; colonel, artillery, standards, every thing was taken. The regiment of the Grand Duke Constantine was annihilated. He owed his safety only to the swift-

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ness of his horse. From the heights of Austerlitz, the confederate emperors beheld the defeat of all the Russian guard. At the same moment, the centre of the army commanded by Marshal Bernadotte advanced; and at one o'clock the victory was decided. It, indeed, had not been doubtful for a moment; not a man of the reserve was wanted, nor had assisted in any part; a cannonade having been kept up only on the right of the French. The combined army, which had been surrounded and driven from all the heights were on a flat, and near a lake. Buonaparte hastened thither with twenty pieces of cannon; when two columns of Russians, composed of four thousand men each, laid down their arms and surrendered. The result of this day's battle, according to the statements of the French, was, that the allied army lost one hundred and fifty pieces of cannon, and forty-five stand of colors: eighteen thousand Russians, six hundred Austrians, and nine hundred French were left dead on the field of battle.

The allies, after a day so disastrous to their cause, retired by the road of Austerlitz to Godnig; and, on the following day, the French were preparing to take advantage of their successes, when, at day-break, Prince John of Lichtenstein, who commanded the Austrian army, came to Buonaparte's head-quarters, in a barn, and held there a long audience, which prepared the way for an interview between the Emperor Francis and Buonaparte, which took place on the 5th and continued two hours. It was then that they agreed on an armistice, and upon the principal conditions on which a peace should be negociated. These

were

were in substance; that the Russian army should evacuate the Austrian states, with Austria and Poland, viz. Moravia and Hungary within the period of fifteen days, and Gallicia within a month, the route of return to be prescribed by the French; that there should be no levy-en-masse or insurrection in Hungary, nor any extraordinary recruiting for troops in Bohemia; and that no foreign army should be permitted to enter the territory of the House of Austria.

Accordingly, on the 26th of December, 1805, a peace was concluded at Presburgh, between Austria and France by Counts Stadion and Ginlay, and Prince John of Lichtenstein on the part of Austria; and by M. Talleyrand on the part of France. Agreeably to this treaty the French were to evacuate Brunn on the 4th of January, Vienna on the 10th, and all the Austrian states in their possession, excepting those ceded to the kingdom of Italy and Bavaria, within six weeks of the signing of the treaty. By the peace of Presburg also the Electors of Bavaria and Wurtemberg were permitted to assume the title of Kings, as a reward, it was said, *of their attachment to the cause of the French.*

Thus in the short space of three months, and a few days, did Buonaparte subdue, or indeed almost annihilate the powers of the continent, who had combined to limit his dominions and shake his authority. In three months we have seen a great European empire reduced to the most abject submission, and part of its territories divided among those who were but the mere electors in the state, but now under the auspices of the conqueror, are elevated to the rank of kings,

kings, independent of all authority, save of his who made them what they are.

For the unfortunate failure of the continental confederacy, the government of this country, or rather the late administration, has been most unjustly, and most absurdly censured, by certain men, who are ever anxious to exalt the intellect and prowess of the enemy, at the expence of their own countrymen. We, on the contrary, regard that confederacy, or rather its formation, as one of the most stupendous efforts of political skill. Mr. Bowles, an able, and an eloquent writer, justly observes, that, "by forming the concert with Russia alone, and by engaging that power to employ its influence with Austria, in order to induce the latter to accede to the plan, the cabinet of London took the best, perhaps the only possible means, not only of obtaining the wished-for alliance, but also of preventing the concert from being discovered and frustrated by France, before it could be brought to maturity. To this circumstance it was owing, that the league was completed with such secrecy, as to justify the observation, that, 'it burst forth at once, in full maturity upon an astonished world.'"

Another writer,* whose information and judgment on the subject are unquestionable, has favored the public with the following just and admirable remarks on the subject: — "On surveying the transactions of the late campaign in Germany, and peculiarly those which marked its close in Moravia; the as-

* Author of *Thoughts on the relative State of Great-Britain and of France, at the Close of Mr. Pitt's Life and Administration in* 1806.

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tonishment and consternation which they excite, are infinitely heightened by the reflections, that the humiliations and reverses which the Austrians sustained, and the catastrophe, that followed, are attributable only to themselves. Whether we resolve it into the pusillanimity and misunderstanding of the generals, or into the incapacity of the ministers of the cabinet of Vienna; or rather conceive it to have arisen from a combination of the two causes, we find in it equal subject of regret. Never did Buonaparte, at any period of his life, neither at Acre, at Lodi, nor at Marengo, commit so much to fortune, as when he crossed the Danube, into Moravia, in the end of November. Never did he offer to his enemies a fairer occasion to have arrested his victories; and to have obliterated their past defeats or misfortunes. Even after the victory of Austerlitz, the Emperor Francis might have found inexhaustible resources for continuing the contest, and for eventually terminating it with honor. It is a painful, but it is a necessary task to follow the progress of those events which produced the calamitous peace of Presburg. Europe will long retain the traces, and deplore the fatality which led to that ignominious treaty.

"It is evident, and indeed it is not contested, even by the French themselves, that subsequent to the defeat of Austerlitz, a very large army of Russians still remained entire. The road through Terchen to Cracow lay open for the Emperor Francis's retreat. In the Imperial Poland, in Transylvania, in Croatia, in Hungary, new levies, and incalculable means for renewing the war, would have been found. The auxiliary armies, on their march from Russia, would have

there met the Austrian Monarch, and have formed a guard for his protection. Even in the rigours of the season, in the winter itself he would have found the best and most powerful ally. Buonaparte could neither have advanced with safety, nor have fallen back without disgrace and confusion.

"Before him lay Olmutz, one of the strongest fortified places in Europe, inaccessible, in a great measure, from the marshes that surround it; garrisoned and provisioned for a siege. How formidable a barrier it presents against an invader, may be estimated by the ineffectual attempt which the Great Frederic made in person, to render himself master of it in 1758. Behind Buonaparte, about fifty miles in his rear, ran the Danube; whilst the Archduke Charles, at the head of a army which had repulsed Massena, was on his march towards Vienna, through the western provinces of Hungary. In Bohemia, the Archduke Ferdinand, after defeating the Bavarians opposed to him, might soon extend assistance to his brothers. Nor could it be doubted that the Prussian forces who were advancing through Franconia, must have taken eventually a decisive part in the contest, by joining the allies. Famine, cold, darkness, and all the diseases, as well as calamities, incident to a winter's campaign in an enemy's country, were about to assail the French, and to teach their leader, a second time, the mutability of fortune which he experienced beford Acre!

"Such were the circumstances, and such the aspect of affairs, at the time when the Emperor of Germany thought proper to accept an armistice, and to conclude a peace. My profound respect for the probity, the virtues, and the upright intentions of that unfortunate prince,

prince, would impel me to draw a veil over his weakness; if the misfortunes to which it has already given birth, and the more incalculable evils, which must result from it to Europe, did not forbid me to sacrifice to a false delicacy, the truth of history. Francis the second has consummated what Louis the sixteenth began! As the latter of these sovereigns surrendered France to revolution and anarchy, so has the former delivered over Germany to pillage, spoliation, and subversion."

Buonaparte since his return to France, has proceeded in his career of making, and of unmaking kings. He has decreed—and his will is the only law by which his actions are regulated—that "*the Neapolitan dynasty has ceased to reign.*" Under the idle pretence that the Royal Family of Naples had favored the landing of English and Russian troops in Sicily, they have been compelled to seek an asylum in that part of their dominions. "My enemies," says Buonaparte, in his address to the legislature, March 2, 1806, "have been humbled and confounded; the House of Naples has irrecoverably lost its crown; the whole of the peninsula of Italy forms a part of the Great Empire. I as supreme head, have guaranteed the sovereign and the constitutions that governed the different departments." Joseph, the brother of Buonaparte, has received the crown of Naples; it being decreed, that *the crown of France and that of Naples shall never be united upon the same head.*

Notwithstanding this outrage upon order and humanity *King* Joseph has not yet been able fully to possess himself of his usurped territory, as Sicily is at present

successfully defended by the combined English, Russians, and Sicilians; and, at the moment of preparing this article for the press, an expedition is on the eve of departing from England, for the supposed purpose of assisting the unfortunate and persecuted House of Naples.

Since the return of Buonaparte, a new revolution has also been effected in Holland, and PRINCE Louis, another of the Corsican brothers, has been declared king of that degraded country. Talleyrand, one of the coadjutors in iniquity of Buonaparte, has likewise been created Prince and Duke of Benevento; and Marshal Bernadotte, Prince and Duke of Ponte-Corvo, with remainder for their issue male.

Such are the achievements of Buonaparte, whose career we have faintly endeavored to trace; and thus have we seen the establishment of a new order of things in Europe, which has completely mocked the hopes of the allied powers, and which has given to France a degree of authority and consequence which even Buonaparte himself could not have anticipated, and which appears to have annihilated every principle upon which the balance of European power was founded. England alone remained unmoved amidst the surrounding storm; amidst the wreck of states and the dissolution of empires; and that she may long remain the envy of France, and the pride and glory of the civilized world, must be the ardent and unceasing prayers of every British patriot.

A contemporary writer from whom we have already quoted, thus succinctly characterizes the conduct of the man whose actions we have been holding forth to the

the public:——"Combining the two extremes of despotism and of democracy: an emperor in France, but, in act a jacobin; ever affecting to offer peace, while he lets loose the ravages of war; courting the people, at the same moment that he insults the sovereign, and outrages the government; brandishing in one hand the sword, but dexterously concealing in the other the wires of anarchy or revolution; converting the *press to every nefarious use, though exclaiming against the abuse of that weapon, when directed to expose his own violations of faith or treaty;* greedy of glory, but regardless of reputation; he resembles nothing which Europe has beheld in past times, and can neither be compared to Attila, to Clovis, nor to Charlemagne. We might be led to fancy that Milton, in describing the King of Terrors, by prophetic anticipation pourtrayed this new Monarch, sprung like a phantom from the ashes of the French revolution, shadowy, undefinable and terrific:——

"————The other shape,
If shape it might be called, that shape had none,
Distinguishable in member, joint, or limb.
Or substance might be called, that shadow seemed:
For each seemed either, black it stood as night,
Fierce as ten furies, terrible as hell,
And shook a dreadful dart. What seemed his head,
The likeness of a kingly crown had on.

It has been justly observed, that Shakespeare, in this case, had a more prophetic spirit of anticipation than Milton, for certainly if Napoleon Buonaparte had sat for the following portrait, drawn by the hand of our

our bard, the likeness could not have been more correct on striking:——

"A murderer and a villain:
A slave, that is not twentieth part the tythe,
Of *their* precedent Lord:—a vice of Kings:
A cut-purse of the empire; and the duke,
That from a shelf the precious diadem stole
And put it in his pocket!!"

Colonel Thornton

Mrs Fitzherbert

LIEUTENANT COLONEL THORNTON,

LATE OF

THORNVILLE ROYAL, YORKSHIRE.

As the antiquity of a family, generally speaking, is an additional proof of its respectability in the eyes of the world, it will be necessary in the first place to remark, that the Thorntons have been for some centuries established in the county of York, where they have enjoyed the most valuable and extensive possessions; and, at one period, so large were their domains, that they had the right of sixteen lordships vested in them. The most ancient bears the family name, being still called Thornton *cum Bucksby*, of which mention is made prior to the period of William the Conqueror. As the antiquity of a family, however, does not in many instances entail those mental perfections which render the representatives honorable members of society, we shall dwell no longer upon that point, but proceed to give such instances of shining talents and conspicuous virtues, as will tend to convince the public that, not in name alone, is concentrated the worth of the Thornton family, but that, in the two-fold capacities of statesmen and soldiers, they have rendered themselves pre-eminently conspicuous.

Sir

Sir William Thornton, the grandfather of the present colonel, was a very active gentleman in supporting the rights and privileges of Englishmen; and such was the estimation in which his talents were held, that he was the individual selected as best calculated to present, at the foot of the throne, the articles of the union with Scotland, during the reign Queen Anne; on which memorable occasion he received the honor of knighthood from her majesty, accompanied with such demonstrations of royal pleasure as sufficiently indicated that his abilities did not pass unnoticed by his sovereign. With respect to the private virtues of this gentleman, few men can boast a progenitor of such unexceptionable manners; in short, in Sir William Thornton were concentrated the characteristics of a good christian, an affectionate husband, a tender father, and a sincere friend.

Colonel William Thornton, the father of the subject of these memoirs, bearing all those principles instilled into his mind which had ensured his universal approbation, was a steady advocate for the cause of England's rights and liberties, as ratified by the blood of our ancestors.

At the period of the rebellion in Scotland, this gentleman, anxious to testify his loyalty to his sovereign, raised at his own expence, a corps of one hundred men, whom he fed, cloathed, and paid, for several months. At the head of this little troop, Colonel William Thornton marched into Scotland, where he joined the main forces under the command of the Duke of Cumberland, and conducted himself at the battles of Falkirk and Culloden with the most intrepid bravery; and such was the publicity of his active conduct, that a reward

ward of one thousand pounds was offered by the rebel commanders for his head. After the termination of that eventful struggle, Colonel William Thornton was elected member of Parliament for York, in which character he signalised himself as a statesman by revising the old code of the militia laws, as instituted in the reign of Charles the second; and, bringing in a bill framed by himself, which consisted in a total re-organization of the militia laws, which was the foundation of the present well-regulated system, so apparent in every department of that important military force, so conducive to the safety of the country, and the support of the rights and liberties of Englishmen.

After a life thus spent in the service of his country, and characterized by every social refinement which adorns human nature, Colonel William Thornton died suddenly, at the early age of fifty years, his son being then a minor.

The present Colonel Thomas Thornton, was born in the neighborhood of St. James's and placed at a proper age in the Charter House, in order that he might be near his uncle who resided in the vicinity of that public seminary. The progress which he made in his studies was very rapid, until a violent illness with which he was seized, impeded his continuance at the school for some months, when, upon his return, finding that those scholars who had formerly been his inferiors were become better adepts than himself, produced such an effect upon his young and active mind, that, during his continuance at the Charter-House, he never was enabled to follow his studies with that avidity, which had, in the early period of his education, so particularly characterized him.

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When fourteen years of age, it was determined that he should go to college, and in consequence he left the Charter-House; when, accompanied by his father, he first visited the Universites of Oxford and Cambridge, and lastly, those of Edinburgh and Glasgow, in order that he might select that which was best suited to his ideas, on which occasion, the University of Glasgow was preferred, where he was placed by his father, after being introduced to all the leading families residing in that city and its environs.

At this seat of learning our young hero attended to his studies with the most indefatigable assiduity, undergoing the public examinations, in which he acquitted himself to the entire satisfaction of his instructors, and much to his own credit. His companions at the college were Lords Rivers and Seaforth, Sir Thomas Wallace and Messrs. Windham, Sheend, Kennedy, Hill, Wilson, &c. &c. With these gentlemen he was accustomed to pursue the sports of the field during the vacations, which, however, did not so far infatuate his mind, as to make him relax in his course of studies; on the contrary, his time was so diversified, that pleasure never interfered with those duties which education imposed upon him, and in this happy way did he pass his time, until the attainment of his nineteenth year, when he was deprived of the best of fathers. As the death of Colonel William Thornton left the present colonel sole possessor of his estates, it might be supposed that he instantly quitted Glasgow; such, however, was his good sense, that feeling a conviction how much more remained to be learned, he, on the contrary, still continued for three years at the University,

sity deputing his mother, whom he reverenced with true filial affection, to superintend his affairs.

Previous to this period, the colonel had imbibed a strong partiality for the pastime of hawking, which he studied with eagerness, being determined to bring that sport to the height of perfection, neither being deterred by expence, or the difficulties that intervened to prevent the accomplishing of his darling purpose. At the same period was also laid the foundation of that celebrity, which he has since acquired for his breed of horses and every species of dog, calculated for the diversions of the field.

On quitting Glasgow, the colonel repaired with his hawks, dogs, &c. to his mansion at Old Thornville, where he remained for a few months; after which, he visited London, renewed his acquaintance with many of his old college friends, and became a member of the *Sçavoir Vivre* club, which had been very recently instituted, being originally intended to consist of eighteen members only, the subscription being four guineas for the season, to defray the expences of the house-rent, &c. while one guinea was the stipulated sum to be paid for the dinner, the member being entitled to call for as much wine as he chose for that sum. The leading plan of the *Sçavoir Vivre* was intended to patronize men of genius and talents; whereas it soon became notorious as an institution, tolerating every species of licentiousness and debauchery. On one the colonel's visits to the *Sçavoir Vivre*, he took a seat next to the celebrated Oliver Goldsmith who said nothing which tended to stamp him the genius he really was. Thelate Lord Littleton, and the Right Honorable Charles James Fox, were then mem-

 bers

bers of that club, as well as many other celebrated characters of the day. It may be necessary to remark that, although gambling constituted one of the predominant features of the *Scavoir Vivre*, the colonel was never led to share that diversion; and, although an idea has prevailed that he has been addicted to that destructive propensity throughout his sporting career; it is necessary to state, that such reports are totally unfounded, as the colonel was always averse to cards or dice; and, to such a pitch did he carry his ideas on that head, that over the chimney-piece of the library at Thornville Royal, is a marble slab, whereon is graven the following lines:——

"*Utinam hanc veris amicis impleam.*"

"By the established rule of this house all bets "are considered to be off, if either of the parties, "by letter or otherwise, pay into the hands of the "landlord, one guinea, by five the next day."

On the colonel's return to Old Thornville, the neighbouring gentlemen came to a determination to keep a pack of hounds by subscription, when Colonel Thornton took the charge of the dogs, and, for a short time, harmony subsisted among the subscribers; but as the payments were very incorrectly made, the colonel was under the necessity of demanding an arbitration, by which all the arrears due to him, for the keep of the hounds, &c. was paid; after which the society was dissolved, when the colonel found himself obliged to keep the pack at his own private charge.

Having for a period followed every diversion which Yorkshire afforded in its fullest extent, Colonel Thornton became desirous of witnessing the sports of the

Highlands

Highlands of Scotland, whither he repaired, accompanied by Mr. P. Mosley; and so much was the colonel enchanted with the diversity of the scenery, the variety and quantity of game of every description which the remote parts of the Highlands afforded; that he there passed the best part of seventeen years in succession, wholly occupied in the several pastimes which were gratifying to his mind.

In order that the pleasures experienced by the colonel, during his continuance in Scotland, might not be confined to his own particular knowledge, he kept a regular diary of the sporting pursuits, &c. and employed an artist to execute drawings of the antiquities and picturesque scenery of the country; from which he afterwards selected a few, and caused them to be engraved in a very finished style, after which he had recourse to his journal: and thus compleated a manuscript which, together with the plates, was presented as a donation, to an old schoolfellow reduced in his circumstances, and by this means a literary production has been brought into the world under the title of *A Sporting Tour through the Highlands of Scotland, by Colonel Thornton*; which, for local information, anecdote, and sporting intelligence of every description, is fully entitled to the ample sale which it has experienced.

During the colonel's continuance in Scotland, he was first given to understand that Allerton Mauleverer was on the point of being sold by Lord Viscount Galway, to his Royal Highness the Duke of York, which sale, to the colonel's astonishment, shortly after took place; and, upon his return to Old Thornville, he was introduced to the Duke of York, and constantly visited

his Royal Highness until a misunderstanding took place at Boroughbridge Races, which terminated their acquaintance.

Previous to Colonel Thornton's quitting the Highlands, he gave up the land there which he had received of his Grace the Duke of Gordon, where he had erected a small mansion in the gothic style, which was called Thornton-Castle; the colonel was prompted to this measure on account of the great expences attendant on keeping up this establishment, as well as the enormous sums which were expended in travelling from England; in addition to which, the roads were scarcely passable during the rainy seasons. It is necessary to state, that the strictest friendship subsisted between the then Lord Orford and himself, who kept pace with Colonel Thornton in the cultivation of every sport and particularly hawking, nor was the Marquis of Rockingham less partial to the subject of these pages, who enjoyed the confidence and friendship of those respective noblemen until the period of their dissolution.

At the time of his Majesty's illness, in the year 1789, when debates ran high respecting a regency, very great improvements were carrying on at Allerton Mauleverer, by order of the Duke of York; but on the happy recovery of the king, these plans were almost instantaneously stopped by the workmen being discharged; and, on the breaking out of the Spanish war, the sale of Allerton was advertised for disposal, when Colonel Thornton determined on purchasing the same, to the no small astonishment of his friends and the neighbouring gentlemen, who did not conceive it possible hat he could accomplish such a heavy purchase; however,

ever; notwithstanding these conjectures, proposals were made and at length adjusted, when the colonel became the purchaser of the estate of Allerton Mauleverer, (which he afterwards called Thornville Royal) for the sum of one hundred and ten thousand pounds, which was paid by instalments, according to the agreement, within the twelve months. It is more necessary that this fact should be publicly known, as, among other erroneous reports, it has been stated that Colonel Thornton won this estate of the Duke of York at the gambling table.

Soon after this event, the colonel, being well aware that the wolds were best calculated for the purpose of coursing and hawking, purchased of Mr. Bilby the estate of Boythorp, on the wolds, for the sum of ten thousand pounds, where he erected the present mansion, known by the name of Falconer's Hall.

During the sporting career of Colonel Thornton, his mansion of Thornville was always the scene of festive hospitality; and it may with truth be said, that no gentleman is better calculated to preside at the board of hilarity. His diversified talents, his quickness at *repartee*, his facetious stories on all topics, and his good-natured acquiescence with the request of his guests, have ever rendered his table the resort of the neighboring noblemen and gentlemen; nor ought we to pass unnoticed the excellence and abundance of his wines, which were always of the first quality.

With respect to the works of art which adorned the mansion-house of Thornville, few dwellings had to boast a more diversified and choice collection of paintings; and, with respect to sporting subjects, it is only necessary to remark, that the most celebrated pic-

 tures

tures of Gilpin and Reinagle, painted under the immediate direction of the colonel, were there to be found. The well-known picture of the Death of the Fox, by Gilpin, an unrivalled performance, is now, we are informed, engraving by Scott, in his best manner, and from the specimens of his excellence already before the public, there is little doubt but that it will prove a great treat, not only to the sporting world, but to all admirers of fine engraving. Among other masters of the Italian and Flemish schools, which characterized the Thornville collection, were Guido, Carracci, Teniers, Wovermans, Rubens, Vandyke, &c. &c.

With respect to the sporting animals reared by Colonel Thornton, it will be merely requisite to instance a few which, from their acknowledged excellence, sufficiently prove the judgment of the colonel in every point relating to the breed of animals, connected with field sports.

HORSES.

Icelander—A noted racer, bred by Colonel Thornton, which won twenty-six matches, and was the first foal bred by the colonel. The sire of this horse was *Grey-coat* and his grandsire *Dismal.*

Jupiter—This celebrated blood-horse was of a chesnut colour, he was got by *Eclipse*, dam by Tartar, grandam by Mogul, Sweepstakes, &c. in 1777, he won one thousand pounds, at Lewes: two hundred at Abingdon; and one thousand at Newmarket: and, in 1778, two hundred and forty at Newmarket.

Truth—A remarkable steady hunter.

Stoic—A famous race-horse, which won a match at Newmarket for one thousand guineas.

St. Thomas—A race-horse which beat Mr. Hare's *Tu Quoque*, the bet being five hundred guineas, each gentleman riding his own horse.

Thornville—A celebrated hunter.

Esterhazy—A most remarkable blood-horse now in the colonel's possession, being master of any weight, and active in all his paces. Of which animal a very beautiful engraving is now executing by Ward, from a picture of Chalon.

DOGS.

FOX-HOUNDS.

Merlin—A well-known fox-hound, bred by Colonel Thornton.

Lucifer—A most remarkable fox-hound, the sire of *Lounger* and *Mad Cap*, of equal celebrity.

Old Conqueror—A matchless fox-hound, sire of many well-known dogs in the annals of fox-hunting.

POINTERS.

Dash—An acknowledged fine pointer, which sold for two hundred and fifty guineas.

Pluto—A celebrated pointer.

Juno—A remarkable bitch, which was matched with a pointer of Lord Grantley's for ten thousand guineas, who paid forfeit.

Modish—A bitch of acknowledged excellence.

Lilly—A most remarkable steady bitch.

Nan—It is only necessary to state that seventy-five guineas have been offered and refused for this bitch.

GREYHOUNDS.

Major—A dog of very great celebrity, and the father of Colonel Thornton's present breed of greyhounds.—Of this animal a very beautiful engraving, from the masterly hand of Scott, is to be found in that highly finished work, The Sportman's Cabinet; illustrated with specimens of every species of the canine race.

Czarina—A bitch of equal celebrity.

Skyagraphima—A matchless hound. N. B. For each of these hounds the most extravagant sums have been offered but rejected.

SPANIELS.

Dash—This animal is esteemed the *ne plus ultra* of this species of sporting dog, the colonel having used his utmost endeavours to bring the spaniel to perfection.

BEAGLES.

Merryman—This celebrated dog is sire of a pack, which exceeds all others for symmetry, bottom, and pace. The beagles of Colonel Thornton will tire the strongest hunters, and return to kennel comparatively fresh.

TERRIERS.

It would be necessary to notice Colonel Thornton's Terriers, if it were only on account of his justly celebrated *Pitch*, from whom are descended most of the white terriers in this kingdom. This dog was in the

colonel's

colonel's possession about twenty years ago, since which epoch, he has assiduously attended to this breed of sporting dogs.

HAWKS.

Sans Quartier, *Death*, and the *Devil*, were three of the most celebrated birds ever reared by Colonel Thornton during his pursuit of hawking, and were allowed to distance any birds of the kind which had ever been flown at the game.

In speaking of the bodily activity of Colonel Thornton, few men perhaps have ever given proofs of such extraordinary powers. Among various other matches of a similar nature, the following, it is conceived, will be amply sufficient to substantiate this fact:—

In a walking match, which the colonel engaged to perform, he went four miles in thirty-two minutes and half a second.

In leaping, Colonel Thornton cleared his own heighth, being five feet nine inches, the bet being considerable.

In another match, it is stated, that he leaped over six five-barred gates in six minutes, and then repeated the same on horseback.

At Newmarket the colonel, on horseback, ran down a hare, which he picked up, in the presence of an immense concourse of people assembled to witness this extraordinary match.

In stating the colonel's matches, it would be unpardonable to omit the two races between Mrs. Alicia Thornton and Mr. Flint, and that Lady and Mr. Buckle which attracted a greater concourse of spectators on the course at York than had ever before been witnessed.

witnessed. It is but natural to conjecture that Mrs. Thornton's excellence as a horsewoman, was the effect of the instructions she must have received from the colonel, who is in every respect so perfectly calculated to initiate a lady in the art of riding.

With respect to shooting, either with the fowling-piece, rifle, or air-gun, Colonel Thornton has given the most incontestible proofs of the steadiness of his hand, and the wonderful correctness of his sight, not only in bringing down the game, when pursuing the pastimes of the field, but also at a mark, in which his precision has never been surpassed. With regard to shooting apparatus of every description, Colonel Thornton has not only been unmindful of expence in the procuring the best workmanship, but he has also evinced a considerable share of mechanical genius by the improvement of various kinds which he has made in the art of gunnery.

Notwithstanding the numerous pursuits of a sporting nature, which occupied the colonel's mind, he has seldom lost sight of those refinements which characterize the man of literature and taste. His valuable collection of pictures at his late seat of Thornville Royal, sufficiently indicate his taste for the fine arts, and the correct journals which he invariably kept during all his excursions to Scotland, &c. as well as the artists who always attended him to make drawings of the scenery characteristic of the country through which he passed, are sufficient testimonies of his diversified talents and classic pursuits.

Having thus far dilated upon the sporting annals of Colonel Thornton, it will now be requisite to mention his conduct while Lieutenant-colonel of the West-

York

York Militia, where he performed his duty as an officer, and acquired the love of the soldiery to such a degree, that the regiment to a man adored him, rather as a benefactor and parent, than a chief whose command they were subjected to.

During the short interval of peace which occurred between this country and France, in 1802, the colonel repaired to Paris for the purpose of viewing that capital; after which, he travelled through the southern provinces, and part of the conquered territory, where he pursued, with avidity, the sports which characterize that kingdom. On this occasion the colonel had an artist to accompany him, while, as in every other instance, he kept a journal of the events that transpired. From this diary a very entertaining tour has been produced, entitled, Colonel Thornton's Sporting Tour through France, &c. which, from the variety and excellence of the picturesque illustrations with which it abounds, very justly takes precedence of almost every work of a similar description already before the public. In the course of this Tour appears a very entertaining and curious comparative view of the sports of the two countries, which, from the colonel's acknowledged excellence as an English sportsman, renders it not only entertaining, but scientific and useful. These materials form the subject of upwards of forty letters, which were afterwards sent to his noble friend the Earl of Darlington, to whom this splendid work is dedicated.

With respect to the *arcana* of the law, no man has perhaps experienced more its direful effects than Colonel Thornton, who, for several years back, has had to struggle against its *quibbles* and intricacies to the injury of his pocket and the harassing of his mind; yet,

yet, notwithstanding these complicated difficulties, the pressure he experienced in pecuniary affairs, and the general opinion which prevailed that he was a ruined man, he has now completely reversed the scene, as, by the sale of a part only of his extensive possessions to Lord Stourton, he has not only falsified the clamour of report, but given incontestible proof of the acuteness of his own judgment, as few speculations in which he has embarked have ever proved abortive, but, on the contrary, generally been productive of much profit.

To enter into a particular detail of the nature of the accumulated law-suits of the colonel would be absolutely impossible, nor would it be any very easy matter to calculate the sums which he has expended in litigations: the Courts of Chancery, King's Bench, and Common Pleas have been witnesses of his indefatigable genius, which may with justice be said never to sleep.

Among the most celebrated involvements which have characterized the life of Colonel Thornton the most conspicuous was his trial before a court-martial for unsoldier-like conduct; it would be impossible to enter at large upon this topic, but it is sufficient to state that such was the effect of the trial, that when the colonel was prompted to throw up his commission as lieutenant-colonel of the West York Militia, he was drawn into York by the soldiery, who, as a testimony of their gratitude and love, presented him with a beautiful medalion and splendid sword, which the colonel to the present hour esteems as the most precious badge of honour that could be bestowed.

With respect to the corporal pains incidental to human nature, Colonel Thornton to all appearance is perfectly unacquainted with them, he has experienced

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the most trying accidents, but the hand of fate seems always to have been extended to preserve him; rest is generally esteemed the balm of human life, yet the colonel has copiously drank of the juice of the grape and remained with his friends till the return of dawn; he still is awake at the usual hour, and, while the world is buried in sleep, he frequently occupies an hour or two free from head-ach, with a mind calm and collected. It is evident the colonel has imbibed one opinion, viz—"Time is precious: life is but a span: we should therefore make the best use of it." In fine the greatest persecution that could be entailed on Colonel Thornton would be to condemn him to pass a week in idleness: his mind ever on the alert, pictures some new scene for action, and, if the object be but trivial we had better occupy the mind on that nothingness, than suffer the fancy to lie dormant and fix on things derogatory to our natures.

THE LATE

DR. ERASMUS DARWIN.

> "Above the smoke and stir of this dim spot,
> Which men call earth."
>
> MILTON.

AFTER witnessing the lawless strides of ambition, the blood-imprinted footsteps of war, the desolating effects of conquest, and the sanguinary deeds of usurpation, it is sweet to contemplate the poet, whose "eye, in a fine frenzy rolling, doth glance from heaven to earth, from earth to heaven;" and, resting on some delightful object of attraction, dwells with genuine rapture. Yes! it is sweet to contemplate those spirits of peace, who walk the earth, diffusing happiness and pleasure around them.

The late Dr. Darwin, whose knowledge as a naturalist, whose skill as a physician, and whose elegance as a poet, entitle him to high distinction, was born near Newark, in Nottinghamshire, about 1732. His father was a private gentleman, residing in that part of the country.

Of the earlier years of Dr. Darwin, but little is known, farther than that he received the chief part of his education at the University of Cambridge, where he took up his degree; that he also studied at the Edinburgh

Edinburgh University; that he was regularly bred to physic; and that, in the autumn of the year 1756, when he had attained the age of twenty-four, he came to Litchfield to practise, bringing with him very high recommendations from the respective Universities which we have mentioned.

A love for eccentricity seems to have prevailed in his medical practice; but, as far as we are able to learn, he had the good fortune to be generally successful. A few weeks after his arrival at Litchfield, an event occurred, which materially contributed to establish his reputation; though we doubt not that the share which Dr. Darwin bore, in one of its concomitant circumstances, has frequently been the subject of ridicule in the medical world. Lady Northesk, who was supposed to be in a consumption, and whose health was rapidly wasting by hæmorrhage, had been, for some time, without experiencing relief, under the care of different London physicians. She was at length induced to remove to the house of Dr. Darwin, in order that she might be an immediate object of his attention. During her residence there, she was frequently visited by Miss Seward, a lady well-known in the republic of letters, as the author of numerous poems, &c. and as the diffuse biographer of her friend, the doctor. Miss Seward took considerable interest in the recovery of Lady Northesk, and by every exertion in her power, endeavoured to amuse her, and to abate that injury which is uniformly received by a patient whose thoughts are suffered to dwell upon the afflicting disease. One evening Dr. Darwin, after a long and intense reverie, proposed to Lady Northesk to have recourse to an art practised in former years, but which the faculty has

very long disused; that of injecting blood into the veins by a syringe, and thus repairing the waste of nature. Miss Seward, who was present, *philantropically* exclaimed, "if the trial should be determined on, perhaps Lady Northesk would prefer a supply from a healthy *human* subject, rather than from an *animal*; my health is perfect, I have no dread of the lancet, and will gladly spare, from time to time, such a portion from my veins to Lady Northesk as Dr. Darwin shall think proper to inject." Miss Seward, it is presumed, while in the literal exercise of her goodness, in describing herself as a *human* subject, forgot that she was an *animal!* Fortunately, however, for the fair poet, perhaps also for Lady Northesk, and for the reputation of Dr. Darwin, the recovery of the sufferer was effected without having recourse to the exploded practice of transfusing blood.

Dr. Darwin, we are told, was somewhat above the middle size; his form was athletic, and inclined to corpulence; his limbs were too heavy for exact proportion; his face bore the traces of a severe small-pox; his features and countenance were rather saturnine than sprightly; he stooped in the shoulders; and the then professional appendage which he wore, a large full-bottomed wig, gave, at that early period of life of which we are speaking, an appearance of twice the years that he bore. Florid health, however, and a pleasing smile on entering a room, or on first accosting his friends, rendered in his youth that exterior agreeable to which beauty and symmetry had not been propitious, Such is the picture of the person, who, in about a twelvemonth after settled in Litchfield, he married Miss Howard. This lady, to a mind of native strength,

united

nit ed a lively taste for the works of imagination, an ingenuous sweetness, and a delicacy animated with sprightliness, which made her a fascinating companion to a man of talents so illustrious as those of Dr. Darwin. But alas! upon her early youth, and a too delicate constitution, the frequency of her maternal situation had probably an injurious effect. The skill, and assiduous care of him, before whom disease daily vanished from the frame of others, could not radically expel it from that of her whom he loved. For thirteen years, however, it was kept at bay. Mrs. Darwin closed her existence at the latter end of the summer of 1770, after having spoken with fervour to two intimate female friends, upon the distinguished happiness of those years. "Do not weep for my impending fate," said she, "Dr. Darwin has prolonged my days, and he has blessed them."

Dr. Darwin admired not a life of "singled blessedness." In the year 1778, he first saw Mrs. Pole, wife of Colonel Pole of Radburne, in Derbyshire, for whom he conceived a passion. He celebrated her in the Petrarchan style, and fortunate it was for him that he did so, for the lady upon the death of her husband, Colonel Pole, married him, having refused many young men who from their youth, wealth, and exterior accomplishments, might have been thought more desirable matches. But the lady, sensible of the attachment of a man of genius, and wisely regarding her future fame, is said to have preferred the doctor because he made verses upon her; though not without some terrors lest the grateful incense should be withheld, when she descended from her Laura dignity to wifehood. Mrs. Darwin had taken a dislike to Litchfield, in

in consequence of which the doctor removed directly to Derby, whither his reputation, and the unlimited confidence of the public, followed him, and would have followed him to the metropolis, had he chosen to remove to it.

During the time that Dr. Darwin resided at Litchfield, the great Dr. Johnson was several times in that town. They had one or two interviews, but never afterwards sought each other, a strong and mutual dislike originating and subsisting between them.

A short digression will here, we presume be admissible. Amongst the circle of Dr. Darwin's acquaintance at Litchfield, Miss Seward informs us, was the late Mr. Day, well known as the author of Sandford and Merton. This gentleman was born to a competent fortune which he expended in a manner peculiar to himself, Master of his own actions, at the age of twenty-one he displayed a rigid and unbending morality, at a period of life when many other youths commence the career of vice and profligacy. He entertained the utmost contempt for the distinctions of birth, wealth, or rank, and had no pity for the distresses which arose from imaginary causes, such as the vapours, &c. but he felt the most genuine compassion for those who were afflicted with the real distresses of cold and hunger, and spared no exertion for their relief that could be afforded by his purse or constitution. His mind was strong, his principles rigid, and he reasoned, acted, and dressed, like a philosopher. He was a friend to matrimony, and had resolved to marry as soon as he could find a woman with the virtues of a Cornelia, a Portia, or an Arria. His search for this phœnomenon, as may well be supposed, was fruitless,

fruitless. He attributed the timid disposition of women, and want of energy in the female character, to a vicious system of education; and the errors and profligacy of the males, to the same source. Of the influence of education he had the highest idea, and was persuaded that by the proper imployment of this instrument, a person might be brought to an extraordinary degree of perfection both in mental and bodily powers. In order to reduce his system to practice, he fell upon a singular device. Accompanied by a friend, he went to the foundling hospital at Shrewsbury, and from the children selected two girls, who were delivered to him upon condition, that he should give a dowry of five hundred pounds to the one on the day of her marriage, and marry the other himself, or give her also a dowry on her marriage with some other person. He solemnly engaged never to violate the honour of either of them, and for the performance of these conditions, his friend Mr. Bicknell, a barrister, became surety. He immediately set off with his charge to France, where he continued for several years in retirement, and adhered with incredible perseverance to his system of education, performing for the children the lowest offices himself, lest they should in any way be corrupted by an intercourse with servants. At length he returned with the young ladies, to whom he had given the names of Lucretia and Sabrina, to England. Sabrina became the favourite, and Lucretia was sent to board at the house of an old lady of his acquaintance, whilst he continued his system of education with the former. But he did not find it succeed according to his expectations, for Sabrina could not be prevented from roaring vociferously when subjected to pain, and screaming

ing when a pistol, which she believed to be loaded with ball, was fired at her petticoats, with as much good-will as some ladies at the sight of a mouse or a spider. He therefore gave up the attempt as hopeless, and his marriage scheme being of course set asside, Sabrina was sent to a boarding-school. His belief in the infallible powers of education was now weakened, and he became less averse from modern refinements. His philosophy, however, could not defend him from becoming the votary of the blind god. He was smitten with the charms of a young lady, who told him frankly that she could not love a person who in his dress and manners paid so little regard to the customs of life. The philosopher was so completely subdued, that, for the sake of pleasing his mistress, he went to Paris, where he continued for the space of a year under the tuition of a dancing-master, and such other persons, as teach accomplishments of a similar nature that go to the composition of a fine gentleman. But the force of habit was not to be subdued: Mr. Day, after all his efforts, found that his attempts at acting the beau made him an object of laughter; and the mistress for whom he had undertaken the unpleasing task, declared that Mr. Day, *blackguard*, was more tolerable then Mr. Day *fine gentleman*. He then returned to his old habits, which were more congenial to a mind that had always disdained to be occupied with "trifles." He mixed, however, occasionally in society, and there accident brought him acquainted with a woman, who loved him sufficiently to enable her to leave, without regret, the frivolities of her past life, and to form herself in retirement after the model which existed in the imagination of her husband. At length, this

this singular man fell a victim to one of his peculiar notions. He had imbibed a high idea of the docility of horses, and their attachment to those by whom they are well used, and reared a colt, which he continued a long time to feed with his own hand. The animal had learned to distinguish the sound of his voice, and ran towards him when called. At last he resolved to mount him; but the colt, upon feeling the unusual weight, threw him, and struck him, after he had fallen, with his heel, a blow on the head, which almost immediately proved fatal. Mrs. Day lived two years after this catastrophe; but it was supposed that she never, during all that time, saw the light of the sun, sleeping in a dark room by day, and in the night walking about his garden, and indulging in the solitary gloom, the anguish which she felt for the untimely fate of her husband. Such was the character and end of this extraordinary man.

To return to Dr. Darwin. Though gifted from his earliest youth with a highly poetic imagination, he prudently resisted, through the first twenty-three years of his practice as a physician, the fascinating solicitations of those seductive syrens, the muses. He remembered how fatal their gifts had proved, to the young physicians Akenside and Armstrong, and determined to regard them as beacons to warn him from professional ruin. Little pieces, however, occasionally stole at seldom-occurring periods from his pen; most of which found their way into newspapers and magazines; but many of those minute gems are yet in circulation, without ever having been recognized as the pruductions of Dr. Darwin. Among the pieces that have never been formally avowed by the Doctor, is the

the following epitaph, very little known, on the death of General Wolfe :——

"Thy trembling hills, Quebec, where victory trod,
Shook her high plume, and wav'd her banner broad;
Saw Wolfe advance, heard the dire din of war,
And Gallia's genius shrieking from afar ;
With fatal haste the astonished goddess flew,
To weave the immortal chaplet for his brow.
Cyprus she gather'd with the sacred bays,
And weav'd the asp of death among the sprays.
They fly ! they fly ! th' expiring hero cried,
Hung his wreath'd head, thank'd the kind gods, and died."

His great work, Zoonomia, was commenced about the year 1771, but was not presented to the public till 1794. It is an exhaustless repository of interesting facts, of curious experiments in natural productions, and in medical effect : a vast and complicated scheme of disquisitions incalculably important to the health and comfort of mankind, so far as they relate to objects merely terrestrial ; throwing novel, useful, and beautiful light on the secrets of phisiology ; and, though its doctrines are far from being infallible, it must spread the fame of its author over lands and seas, to whatever clime the sun of science has irradiated and warmed,

Dr. Darwin soon after the publication of his Zoonomia, published a small tract on female education, intended to promote the success of two young ladies, his relations, who had opened a boarding-school at Ashbourn, in Derbyshire. This work it must be admitted, is by no means worthy of his abilities ; it is a meagre composition, of little general interest, excepting

ing some good rules for promoting the health of growing children.

Early in the year of 1800, our author published another large quarto volume, entitled *Phytologia*; or the Phylosophy of Agriculture and Gardening. In this work he maintains, as a regular system, that vegetables are remote links in the chain of sentient existence; that plants have vital organization, sensation, and even volition; and he adduces a number of instances, which seem strongly to support the theory. Of this theory. however, Dr. Darwin is neither the source, nor the first who drew the scattered hints of former philosophers concerning it, into a regular system. The French author, St. Pierre, and the ingenious Dr. Percival, of Manchester, preceded him in inculcating it from the press.

The great poetical work of Dr. Darwin, was his *Botanic Garden*, begun in the year 1779; in which he first broached his doctrine of sentient existence in plants. The ingenious and novel plan of this performance, involves no claim upon the affections; but it is a highly imaginative and splendidly descriptive poem, enriched with a number of philosophical notes, where explanations are found of every personified plant; with its general history, its local situation, and its botanic and common names.

Our author's last work, was also a poetic one, entitled *The Temple of Nature*. To this, as well as to *The Botanic Garden*, was subjoined a great number of valuable and highly interesting notes.

Aware that the poetical performances of Dr. Darwin are in the hands of almost every reader of taste, we purposely refrain from entering into any minute details

tails of criticism thereon. As a general opinion on his merits, that of Mr. Fellowes is, probably, as just and as delicate as any that has appeared. "In perspicuity," says he, "which is one of the first excellencies in poetic, as well as prose composition, this author has perhaps few equals. He is clear, even when describing the most intricate operations of nature, or the most complex works of art; and there is a lucid transparency in his style, in which we see objects in their exact figure and proportion. But Dr. Darwin's poetry wants sensation; that sort of excellence which, while it enables us to see distinctly the objects described, makes us feel them acting on our nerves."

It was on the 18th of April, 1802, that the medical, the philosophical, and the literary world were deprived of the illustrious talents of Dr. Darwin. In one hour, says Miss Seward, was extinguished that vital light, which the preceding hour, had shined in flattering brightness, promising duration; that light, which, through half a century, had diffused its radiance and its warmth so widely; that light, in which penury had been cheered, in which science had expanded, to whose orb poetry had brought all her images, before whose influence disease had continually retreated, and Death so often turned aside his levelled dart.—The Doctor, for several preceding years, had been subject to sudden and alarming disorders of the chest, in which he always applied the lancet instantly and freely. It is not improbable, that such repeated and daring use of it, irreparably weakened the system. On the morning of his death, he rang the bell, and ordered his servant to send Mrs. Darwin to him. She came immediately,

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with his daughter. Perceiving himself growing rapidly worse, he said to Mrs. Darwin, " My dear you must bleed me instantly!"——" Alas, I dare not, lest"—— " Emma, will you? There is no time to be lost."—— " Yes, my dear father, if you will direct me." At that moment he sunk into a chair, and expired. The body was opened, but the surgeon found no traces of peculiar disease. The state of the viscera indicated much more protracted existence.

Dr. Darwin, as a physician, avowed a conviction of the pernicious effects of all vinous fluid on the youthful and healthy constitution; and entertained an absolute horror for spirits of all sorts, howsoever diluted. Acid fruits, with sugar, and all sorts of creams, and butter, were his luxuries; but he ate plentifully of animal food. This liberal alimentary regimen, he prescribed to people of every age, where unvitiated appetite rendered them capable of following it, even to infants. His influence and example had such an effect on the gentlemen of Derby, that intemperance, in fermented fluid of every species, was almost unknown in that city and the adjacent country.—Professional generosity also distinguished Dr. Darwin's medical practice. At Litchfield, he attended diligently to the health of the poor; and afterwards, at Derby, he supplied their necessities by food, and every kind of charitable assistance. He constantly, from time to time, withstood solicitations from numerous families of rank and opulence to remove to London; but, conscious of his full habit of body, he probably thought that his established custom of imbibing pure and changed air, by almost daily journies in the country, was

was essential to his health, and probably to the duration of his life. In allusion to his almost perpetual travelling, a gentleman once humorously addressed a letter, *Dr. Darwin, upon the road.*

From his distinguished power of disclosing the arcana of nature, Dr. Darwin was enabled to explore and detect the fallacy of many received and long established opinions. Convinced, by deep thought and philosophical experience, that mankind received many prejudices for truths, he regarded, perhaps with too jealous an eye, the most revered and sacred maxims of antiquity. According to an observation of Mr. Fellowes, "his understanding had some of the properties of the microscope; he looked, with singularly curious and prying eyes, into the labyrinth of nature; he was acquainted with more links in the chain of *second* causes, than had probably been known to any individual who went before him; but he dwelt so much, and so exclusively on *second* causes, that he too generally seemed to have forgotten that there is a *first.*"

Dr. Darwin, by each of his wives, had several children; notwithstanding which, he appears to have been possessed of a considerable portion of stoical apathy. A short time before his death, he lost one of his sons, who, in a fit of low spirits, had drowned himself. On hearing of the affair, the Doctor is said to have exclaimed, *Poor insane coward!* and soon appeared as unconcerned as though nothing had happened. This, by some, has been extolled as a lofty stretch of philosophy; but, in our humble opinion, it indicated a want of proper feeling.

Dr.

Dr. Darwin was suspected of not being a believer in divine revelation. Of the justice of this suspicion, we are not competent to judge; nor, as he has already answered for his actions, before the greatest of all tribunals, shall we farther attempt to "draw his frailties from their drear abode."

GENERAL MIRANDA.

FROM the various revolutions which, during the last sixteeen years, have convulsed Europe and the world, the prospect of every additional change becomes doubly important. In less than twelve months, we have seen the Dutch republic converted into a Gallo-Corsican monarchy, the House of Naples driven from its hereditary possessions, and the most ancient constitution in our hemisphere razed to its very foundation. At the present moment, Portugal trembles with apprehension; and Spain owes her existence, as a nation, to the forbearance of Britain, and to the service which she is capable of rendering to Buonaparte.

Under these circumstances, and considering the critical situation of the Spanish South American possessions, it is no wonder that the expedition of that enterprising character, General Miranda, should excite an extraordinary and general interest. As neither the origin, progress, nor views, of this gentleman are much known, we conceive that whatever light can be thrown upon them will be acceptable to our readers.

General Miranda, with whose christian name we are unacquainted, is a native of South America. He was born in the Carraccas; and, though the endeavour to effect the independance of his native country ma

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be laudable, he cannot be otherwise considered than as a subject of the King of Spain. His family is lineally descended from the first settlers; and by their name, and their original rank in the province, it is probable that the Mirandas are a younger branch of a noble family of that name, in Old Spain. The grandfather of the present general held the office of Governor of the Carraccas; and his father, we believe, looked up to the same honor; but the jealousy of the Court of Spain here interposed—the father of Miranda, like himself, was a native of South America, and the policy of Spain held it as an established principle to commit no office of trust to a native.

Whether it be owing to this circumstance, or to the naturally restless disposition of General Miranda, that his discontent originated, it would be difficult to ascertain. It is not improbable, however, that, with an ardent mind, and a spirit thirsting for adventure, had he been born under the more equitable and settled government of Britain, he would not have been less adventurous and intriguing. Had he lived in ancient times, he, it is probable, as well as Aratus and other enterprising generals, attended by a few trusty adherents, would have been scaling the walls of cities, and attacking monarchs in their palaces.

With much of eccentricity, there is much of genuine heroism in the character of Miranda. We have seen an anecdote of the gallant Sir Sydney Smith, which, for its application, here merits insertion. Being sent, some years since, on shore upon the Irish coast with a brother officer, who is now holding a deservedly high situation in the naval service, to look for some deserters from their ship, after a long fatiguing and fruitless pursuit,

persuit, they halted at a little inn to refresh themselves: having dined, Sir Sydney on a sudden, became silent, and seemed lost in meditation: "My dirk for your thoughts," exclaimed his friend, gently tapping him on the shoulder, "what project, Sydney, has got possession of you now?" "My good fellow," replied the young warrior, his expressive countenance brightening as he spoke, "you will, no doubt, suppose me a little disordered in my mind, but I have been thinking that, before twelve years shall have rolled over my head, I shall make the British arms triumphant in the Holy Land."* It is well known how accurately this prediction was fulfilled. Actuated by a spirit somewhat similar to this, Miranda, when he had scarcely attained his twentieth year, formed the romantic resolution of traversing the vast Continent of America, north and south. It is not to be supposed that he ventured to explore these almost boundless regions without some object commensurate with the magnitude of the attempt. What adds materially to the hardihood of this astonishing enterprize is, that he performed it *voluntarily* on foot. Thus, with a purpose, great, though perhaps obscure, or not fully formed, did Miranda, in the habit of a peasant, commence his travels, to the accomplishment of which he is indebted for that extensive local knowledge on which his present expedition is founded.

Of a wealthy and respectable family, it has been matter of surprize to many, that, without protection, and under the garb of poverty, he should thus throw

* *Vide* CARR's *Northern Summer*.

himself upon the mercy of savages. This circumstance, however, in our opinion, indicates a degree of penetration and wisdom which is seldom found at his early age. There are few, if any, of the tribes of Indians who murder merely from a thirst for blood. The traveller, laden with trinkets and valuables, may be robbed and murdered for the sake of his property; but the peasant, without wealth, or even arms to indicate an hostility of intention, stands a fair chance of being suffered to pass unmolested, and also of receiving assistance from the hordes through which he may have occasion to make his way.

Miranda, we believe, had not returned from his travels when the American war broke out; but, in the latter years of that contest, so fertile in great events and characters, he fought, as a volunteer, in the French army. He was there regarded with admiration: his courage, his spirit of adventure, and, above all, his youth, threw an air of romance about him, which still farther augmented the general notice.

On the conclusion of peace, having formed an intimacy with several of the French officers, he followed them to the Court of Versailles, where he had the honour of being introduced to the late King, Louis XVI. Still impelled by a laudable curiosity, he undertook the tour of France, in the course of which he made a point of visiting all the old generals of that country. After this, he came over to England, whence he passed into Italy; still preferring his early practice of travelling on foot. This is certainly the most effectual mode of becoming acquainted with a country, though not with its inhabitants—at least with the higher classes.

It

It might have been expected that Old Spain, his mother country, would have been one of the first places in Europe which he would chuse to visit. This, however, from whatever motive, was not the case; as we have seen that, having made the tour of France, he also took England and Italy in his way, before he proceeded to Spain. From that country, after collecting every species of information within his reach, he returned to South America. It has been said that, previously to his quitting the Caraccas, he had had a difference with his family. Whether they were displeased with his romantic undertakings, or with his political opinions, we know not; but, whatever were the cause of dissatisfaction, we understand that it was removed on his return. This statement is strengthened by the fact, that, on his subsequent visit to Europe, he was evidently possessed of a large property. Miranda's father, we believe, died some years ago in South America.

Our adventurer, after his return home, made a second tour through South America, the object of which, considering the disclosure of his views which has since taken place, it is impossible to misunderstand. Admitting that, in his first travels, he had sought nothing but the gratification of an idle spirit of adventure, it was clear that something more important impelled his second journey. As far as we have been able to learn, his chief aim, during his first excursion, was to acquire an accurate topographic knowledge of the country; but he no longer confined his attention to mountains and forests: his attention was now directed to cities, their fortifications, military works, &c. This survey,

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for such it may with propriety be termed, was no sooner concluded, than he took a voyage to New York. What was his object in North America, except indeed it were that which appears to have been the great object of his life, it is impossible to say. Here, however, he remained till the period of the French revolution; when his active spirit and inclination for intrigue determined him on taking a part in the scene of commotion which presented itself. We are by no means to infer from this, that Miranda either foresaw or aimed at producing those sanguinary horrors which ensued. Many noble, many virtuous men beheld the commencement of the French revolution with enthusiastic delight; they beheld it as the dawn of universal liberty. Every one was not gifted with the perspicacity and penetration of the immortal Burke; nor was it for common minds to trace, through myriads of complicated events, the ultimate designs of Providence. Even in this country, the bursting forth of French liberty was hailed with rapture by many of the soundest adherents to the British constitution. We, ourselves, were ardent worshippers at the shrine of the goddess, and we naturally exulted in an addition to the number of her votaries. It was not until we beheld her hallowed shrine polluted by the obscene orgies of wretches incapable of estimating her blessings, that we withdrew from the foul alliance. The commencement of the French revolution, as before observed, was beheld with the warmest sensations of pleasure by many noble and virtuous men. Such, perhaps, was General Miranda; at least we have no right to infer the contrary.

Whether on this occasion he were sent for by any of his friends in France, is unknown; but he took ship

ship for Rouen, where he arrived about the year 1789. He remained in France for two years, when, upon business of the ruling party, he came as their private agent to England. Here he became acquainted with Mr. Pitt, who was accustomed to speak of him with admiration. Having accomplished his mission, he returned to France, and, after a short interval, came back again to England. The object of his intercourse with this country has never been publicly disclosed; but it is understood that, by a kind of intrigue in which the English court had its concern, he succeeded in obtaining a high military command in the French armies. This part of General Miranda's conduct is at present veiled in impenetrable obscurity.

It has been said, that he hated the ruling party, and that he hated the cause of royalty still more; yet his friends do not hesitate to assert, that, in obtaining his military command he had not the most distant intention of treachery. If he hated *both* the contending parties, why, unless from sinister views, did he pretend to attach himself to *either?* We shall leave this question to be answered by political casuists.

General Miranda, either by *chance* or *contrivance*, was second in command under General Dumourier, at the celebrated battle of Jemappe. It was Miranda's advice to Dumourier, that, addressing himself to the army, he should avow himself the defender of the cause of liberty, and lead him against the tyrants of Paris. When the commissioners came to arrest Dumourier, Miranda advised that they should be put to death, and that Dumourier, swearing hatred to royalty, should appeal to France. The event is known—Dumourier escaped, but Miranda was arrested and thrown into

prison,

prison, whence in the vicissitudes of parties he had the good fortune to effect his escape, and has since holden his chief residence in London.

From the period of his escape, General Miranda is supposed to have been closely occupied in preparing for his great and long-conceived enterprise—that of revolutionizing, or at least of effecting the independence of South America.

Before we set out to accompany the General on his expedition, it will be proper to give the reader some idea of its object. In doing this, we shall adhere to the authority of the French traveller, Depons, who is perhaps better acquainted with South America than any other writer, and who was in that part of the world so lately as the year 1804.——That part of America which constitutes the captain-generalship of the Caraccas, is more particularly the object of General Miranda's aim. It comprehends the province of Venezuela in the centre, the government of Maracaybo to the west, Guiana to the south, the government of Cumano to the east, and the island of Marguerite to the north-east.——This department is bounded by the sea towards the north, by the 75th degree of longitude west from the meridian of Paris, to the 62d degree, that is, all the space from Cape Vela to the promontory of Megilones, or of Paria, and to the east of the sea from the 12th to the 8th degree of north latitude. Dutch Guiana and Peru form its boundary to the south, and the kingdom of Santa Fé to the west. All these parts, on the first arrival of the Europeans, were very thinly inhabited: the natives subsisted merely by hunting and fishing, and had not even attained to a knowledge of pastoral life; Mexico and Peru being the

the only countries where the principles of civilization had begun to unfold themselves. At present, according to the best information that Depons could obtain, the province of Venezuela, including Darinus, contains a population of 500,000; of Maracaybo, 100,000; of Cumana, 80,000; of Spanish Guiana, 34,000; and of the island of Marguerite, 14,000; making a total of 728,000. The white inhabitants are considered as constituting two tenths of this population, the blacks three, the enfranchised slaves, or their descendants, four, and the Indians, one. This population, upon a soil whose fertility might be increased an hundred fold, is unquestionably extremely small. "It may perhaps appear surprising," says Depons, that "the number of Europeans who inhabit this country is so inconsiderable; but our surprise must cease when we reflect upon the scanty population by which it is supplied; upon the vast extent of the Spanish possessions, whose colonists are derived from the same source; on the natural predeliction for mines, which attract to Mexico and Peru all the Spaniards whom ambition has induced to leave Europe; and lastly, on the impediments which the Spanish government finds it necessary to throw in the way of Europeans wishing to emigrate to America, in order to prevent the depopulation of the mother country.——No person is permitted to embark for Spanish America without an express order from the king, which is never granted unless on commercial business, and then only for a limited period. The liberty of settling permanently in that country is very difficult to obtain. Persons belonging to the sacerdotal and monastic classes are subjected to similar restrictions. Even the creoles who visit

visit Spain, are not permitted to return to their native country without first obtaining permission of the court to that effect. This prohibition extends equally to females, who are under the necessity of obtaining a similar permission.——This system, it is obvious, is opposite to that of all other governments, which in general hold out every encouragement to free settlers in their colonies. Such settlements likewise afford a means of disposing of those members of the community who have committed crimes not punishable by death. The Spaniards, on the contrary, so far from transporting criminals of any kind to their foreign possessions, have not suffered any individual since 1582, to emigrate to the West Indies, unless they could produce unequivocal testimonies of their good character. At no very distant period, it was even necessary before passing from one province of South America to another, first to obtain a new permission from the king; but this absurd regulation, although not formally abrogated, is now never insisted on. The legislature has thought it incumbent on her, as an homage due to religion, to prohibit all those who have had the misfortune of being brought before the Inquisition, to emigrate to South America, in whatever manner they have been acquitted. But the obstacles thrown in the way of foreigners wishing to go to South America, are still greater. Till very lately, it was necessary for every person desirous of obtaining passports, previously to produce documents of his Spanish descent; and unless this condition was complied with, every application to that effect was nugatory. At last, however, time, aided by the exigencies of the government, more than any real change of system, produced a regulation whereby

whereby foreigners are permitted to visit the Spanish colonies, on paying a tax imposed by the government.

So numerous and so formidable are the impediments to emigration from Spain, that, excepting the individuals sent out by government, it is supposed that scarcely a hundred persons in a year quit the mother country with the view of settling in the Carraccas. "It is true, indeed, says Depons, "that very few of those who do go out ever return to Europe. Of a grave and sedentary habit, a Spaniard seldom thinks of changing his situation; and, when once settled in America, rarely manifests the least wish of returning to his native country. The Biscayans and Catalonians are the only Spaniards in whom the *amor patriæ* is not easily extinguishable."

It is not unimportant to state, that the Spanish possessions in South America are divided into four vice-royalties; *viz.* Mexico, Peru, Buenos Ayres, and Santa Fé; and into six captain-generalships: *viz.* Porto Rico, Havannah, Carraccas, Guatimala, Chili, and the Philippine islands in Asia. For the administration of justice there are thirteen courts of audience, which hold their sittings at Mexico, Guadaloxara, Guatimala, the isle of Cuba, Lima, Charcas, Cusco, and the Philippines. The religious establishment consists of bishoprics, chapters, and convents; besides which, there are several archbishoprics, and thirty-seven vicarages. The power of these different authorities is extended or restrained according to circumstances. All the laws respecting South America, which, on trial, were found useful, have been collected together, and form a code for the Spanish possessions, under the title of the *Laws of the Indies.*

These

These are administered by what is termed the *Council of the Indies*, a very ancient tribunal, which dates its origin from the year 1511. Its power, which has never been abused, has gradually augmented, and is at present so extensive, as to be paramount over all Spanish America. "Its integrity," says Depons, "operates so much to defeat all intrigue, that every Spaniard whose cause is not founded on principles of justice, employs all his efforts to draw it from the *Council of the Indies*." Appointments to all civil and ecclesiastical employments, rewards due to meritorious services, superintendence of the Courts of Audience, of the military, finances, and commerce, all depend on this tribunal. The *Council of the Indies* takes cognizance, by a kind of appeal, termed by the Spaniards, *Recurso*, of all causes determined before the Courts of Audience; all its deliberations are formed by a majority of voices, except in enacting or revoking laws in which case, according to the constitution, two-thirds are requisite.

The Captain-general of the Carraccas, whosesalary is nine thousand piastres, and the perquisites attached to the office nearly double that sum, is the immediate representative of the king in that province. He acts also as governor and president of the court of Audience, and of all the tribunals, excepting those which regulate taxes and superintend the interests of commerce. His power, however, is limited to the term of seven years; unless when war, or some unforeseen circumstance occurs to prevent the appointment of a successor.

To the captain-general, resident in the Carraccas, is entrusted the defence of the provinces of Venezuela,

Maracaybo, Varrinas, Guiana, Cumana, and the island of Marguerite; the governors of those respective provinces, having a right, provisionally, to take such measures as circumstances may seem to require; but of which they must render an account to the captain-general. "It appears," says Depons, "on a cursory view of the subject, that by this plan a more extensive and effectual defence might be made against an enemy, than if each province acted separately and independant of one another. This would, in fact, be the case, if the immense distance which separates them did not prevent the prompt union of the common forces; but, situated as they are, it would perhaps be better that each governor were left at liberty to pursue the impulse of his honor, and the dictates of his judgment, than to depend on the orders of a captain-general, residing at the distance of a hundred leagues from the nearest of these provinces, and whose disapprobation he may dread to incur, should the account he transmits not appear to justify the provisional measures entered upon for the security of his particular province."

Such is the country, which General Miranda promised Mr. Pitt to effect the independance of, with ten thousand men. That illustrious statesman listened to him; but there were two impediments.—The state of our armies, and the positive refusal of General Miranda to have any thing to do with the expedition unless he were at least second in command. There might perhaps be a third;—a doubt as to the policy of throwing Spain into the already overwhelming monarchy of France. If France hesitated to incorporate Spain, it was in the apprehension that England would immediately

immediately seize her colonies. Should the colonies become independant, Spain would in the same instant become a province of France. If, indeed, this consideration were of importance before the recent humiliation of the Austrian monarchy, the expulsion of the King of Naples, and the subversion of the Germanic constitution, how much more so must it be at present. General Miranda, however, is said to have received certain promises, which, had Mr. Pitt lived, would have unquestionably been fulfilled. The firmness of Mr. Pitt's mind, was not to be shaken by the contemplation of common dangers. It is generally believed that his views were latterly directed towards Spanish America; but in what manner, or to what extent, he intended to co-operate with General Miranda, is not altogether so clear.

Spain, it is obvious, has not the power of either governing or protecting her South American colonies. By her monopoly, and by the restrictions to which, in common with most other parent countries, she has subjected them, she has long hung a heavy yoke upon the necks of the colonists; and, conceiving that their debt of former protection has been paid off by former servitude, and that the protection of the mother-country having ceased, her monopoly, and subjection should cease with it, they appear anxious to establish themselves upon their own firm.

Contemplating this country in this kind of view, General Miranda seems to have determined on wresting [illegible]m the parent state. That he has not been, on his first onset, altogether successful, is perhaps more the result of chance, than of the capability of resistance on the part of those with whom he has to contend;

tend: although it must be confessed, that the check which he has received, can scarcely fail of inspiring the Spaniards—such at least as are not in the interest of Miranda—with confidence, and of placing them more on the alert.

This extraordinary man, relying on his own interest and resources, for it does not appear that he has derived any support from any power whatever, in the course of last spring, fitted out an expedition, consisting of one frigate, (the Leander) and a couple of schooners. He rigged and manned them entirely at his own expence, and succeeded in obtaining a number of troops to act as volunteers under his command. His first hope of success was probably founded on the presumption, that, from the almost boundless extent of the coast of Spanish America, he might choose his point of landing. "The first attempt made by an enemy upon the Carraccas," says Depons, "will naturally be by sea; and, however small the force, it must be superior to that by which these coasts are protected; as the Spaniards have never more on this station than a few armed vessels, intended to check the contraband trade, and a single frigate. It is therefore evident, that the defence by sea is perfectly inadequate."

The proceedings of Miranda, on his expedition, are as yet very imperfectly before the public. It is known, however, that he sailed from Jacquemel to the little island of Aruba, situated a small distance from Curacoa; and that with his squadron, he left Aruba about the 16th of April, with a view of effecting a landing somewhere on the coast of Coro.—Coro is situated about sixty leagues east of Maracaybo, and is better protected

protected by the sterility of its soil, and the poverty of its inhabitants, than by its troops: yet it is not considered as a good point of debarkation for an invading force.

It has been said, that, on his arrival off Barcelona, Miranda wrote a letter to his brother on shore, acquainting him with his intention, and advising him, his mother, and sister, to retire into the interior, and to take with them the most valuable of their property. His brother, it is added, was alarmed; and, lest he should be suspected of being concerned in the enterprize, he communicated the contents of the letter to the captain-general of the Carraccas.

We know not what degree of credit may be due to this statement, but it seems probable, that by some means or other, the Spaniards were apprised of his approach; as, at the time when he was preparing to land, his little squadron fell in with two Spanish privateers, one of fourteen, the other of twelve guns, fitted out at Laguira, by the government of the Carraccas. The Leander, after attempting to engage the stoutest, feeling her inferiority of force, suddenly withdrew from the contest, crowded sail, and escaped; leaving the schooners to their fate, which, after a slight resistance, struck to the privateers. Miranda's crews were composed of men of all nations; and it is said, that two young Spaniards, who were on board of the schooners, anticipating their fate, threw themselves overboard, and were drowned; the remainder were taken and carried into Porto Cavello, where they were lodged in jail. Some of the leading young men, it is also said, were immediately ordered up to the Carraccas; but it has been ascertained, that Mr. Smith, the son of a gentleman of considerable note in the United States of America,

America, who was reported to be among the number of the prisoners, is safe with the general in the Leander.

Miranda, not to be dismayed by the failure of his first effort, made sail for Barbadoes, where according to some accounts, he received considerable assistance from the British Admiral Cochrane. Among other reports, it is said, that Admiral Cochrane put him in possession of forty Spanish prisoners, a number equal to that of his men who were captured in the schooners. This account, however, is unquestionably false; as no British officer could feel himself warranted in thus making a transfer of his prisoners.

From Barbadoes, General Miranda proceeded to Trinidad, formerly one of the Spanish islands, where he published the following address :——

" *My Friends and Countrymen.*

" The glorious opportunity now presents itself of relieving from oppression and arbitrary government, a people who are worthy of a better fate : who ought to enjoy the blessings of the finest country in the universe, which bountiful Providence has given them ; but who are shackled by a despotism too cruel for human nature longer to endure. Groaning under their present afflictions, they hail with extended arms the noble cause of freedom and independance, and call upon you to share with them in the God-like action of relieving your distressed fellow creatures.—Hasten then to join the standard of ONE who has the happiness to call himself your countryman, and is determined to rescue his country, and to shed the last drop of his blood in promoting its happiness ; an object of which he has never lost sight of for a moment of his

life.—There will be made a liberal distribution of land at the expiration of a twelvemonth, according to rank, and privates, from the instant of their enrolment, will be entitled to provisions and clothing, with a quarter dollar per day of pay, not subject to any deductions. —And you, brave Volunteers of the Islands, who have nobly come forward to partake with us our honours, and to share with us our prosperity—hasten to follow those officers under whose care you have already been trained, and who are impatient to lead you on to victory and wealth. The gulf that COLUMBUS first discovered and honoured with his presence, will now witness the illustrious actions of your gallant efforts."

According to the latest accounts from Trinidad, General Miranda had there obtained such reinforcements as rendered his squadron far more formidable than it was on his first attempt; and, from the intelligence which he had received as to the disposition of the inhabitants of the Spanish settlements, he was more than ever confident of success.

Should he once effect a landing, of which there can be scarcely a possibility of doubt, his object may be considered as more than half achieved; for, from the same circumstance which affords him the facility of choosing his place of landing—namely, the immense extent of the coast of Spanish America—he will be enabled to drive all before him. In no single part in South America can there be a force of more than 1,000 men; and, from the already mentioned extent of the coast, their posts or detachments are exceedingly remote from each other. In addition to the general sentiments of the inhabitants, the militia of the country is invariably in his interest. If, therefore, his force be sufficient

sufficient to disperse two or three of the detachments of regulars—for more could never effect a junction—he will be enabled to maintain his ground, and, revolutionizing as he goes, will add his conquests to his first force.

The success of this enterprize cannot fail of being deeply injurious to Spain; and, on that account alone, is important to this country. In a general view, it is still more important, as it will be the means of rescuing a vast portion of the world from the dominion of the degraded sceptre of Spain; and, calling it into independence and civil progress, will diffuse the virtues of humanity, and render America a subject worthy of the future historian.

Regarding the emancipation of the Spanish colonies in this point of view, it cannot but afford much heartfelt pleasure to the philanthropist; and, whatever doubt may be entertained as to the loyalty of Mirandá, every lover of liberty will exult in the fruition of his plans.

In sketching these particulars of the life of Miranda, of the present state of South America, and of the progress and probable result of the General's expedition, we conceive that we have given some important information to our readers; and although the subject can scarcely be yet considered as complete, we thought it more adviseable to anticipate than to fall behind expectation. We have also the pleasure of adding, that such arrangements have been made as will put the readers of the Modern Plutarch in possession of whatever incidents may occur in Miranda's further progress.

MR.

MR. DAVID WILKIE.

THAT the comic line of painting, which seems peculiarly adapted to the genius of the English people, should not have been more extensively cultivated, is matter of no small surprise. Wherever it has appeared, accompanied with a proportionate degree of excellence, it has been invariably attended with encouragement and success. To prove this assertion we need only refer to the names of Hogarth, Smirke, Morland, Gilray, and we may add the subject of the present memoir; on whose merits, and the state of the art at the time of his first public appearance, we shall offer a few general observations.

The modern heroes of the brush, misled by the fascinating tricks of Sir Joshua Reynolds, without possessing his feeling, or penetrating into his principles, have so *dashed*, and *splashed*, and *generalised*, that all traces of legitimate art have been lost under their hands; and in its place is set up an ignis fatuus, under the technical and impressive name of *effect*, which all are ready to follow, as it promises to lead them to the object of their wishes by short cuts and flowery paths, without the labour of thinking, or the drudgery of study. The pictures with which the walls of Somerset-House are annually covered, eminently prove this assertion, and would induce the observer to conclude with

with Hamlet, that "Nature's journeymen had made them, and not made them well, they imitate her so abominably." —— Their works are mere abortions—monsters in art—and have no more relation to truth and good taste, than the paltry farces of Reynolds, Dibdin, and O'Keefe have to the genuine comedies of Shakespeare.

In the midst of this glaring confusion and absurdity, Mr. Wilkie has stepped forward; simple, unadorned, despising the meretricious arts by which his contemporaries seek applause, he has been content to search for truth where only it is to be found. The works of his great predecessors he has considered, not as objects of imitation, but as guides in his pursuit of nature, and by placing his object far beyond the mere attainment of their degree of excellence, promises to be a successful rival of their fame.

Mr. David Wilkie is a native of the northern division of our island, where his father is minister of Coults, a small village in the county of Fife. Here, we believe, he was born in the year 1786, and after receiving the best education his father had it in his power to give him, he was placed in 1801 at the academy of Mr. Graham, in Edinburgh, to study drawing. In this pursuit, to which it is more than probable that he was directed by some secret propensity, he made such a proficiency, that he was soon distinguished above all his companions for his drawings from the antique; and in 1803 he obtained the premium for the best historical drawing.

The first finished oil-painting that he is [illegible] to have produced exhibits a representation of a fair at his native village. Into this piece he has introduced

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about one hundred and forty figures, many of which are portraits. Among these are his father and several of the farmers and rustics of the village, whose likenesses he took at church, for which profane conduct, as the rigid presbyterians would deem it, very heavy complaints were made to the father of the youthful artist. The number of figures in this picture appears, at first sight, to be so great, that the spectator would suppose there could not be less than five hundred; yet the management of the various groups and of the light and shade is so excellent, that he has produced bustle and tumult without confusion, and the eye is agreeably led through the various scenes of rustic merriment without being fatigued.

This delineation of the whimsical incidents of a country fair, in which young Wilkie displayed great talent for humour, was executed at a time when he knew little of the method of painting in oil, and for this reason it has not that clearness of touch so conspicuous in his subsequent productions. He shewed it, when finished, to his instructor, Mr. Graham, who was highly astonished to see so superior a performance by so young an artist, and earnestly advised him to prosecute the study of that department of the art, adding, that it was the path in which he would be certain to excel. This picture, we have been informed, was purchased of him for fifty guineas by the lady of Mr. Whitbread.

Eager after improvement, and desirous of availing himself of the resources afforded by the metropolis, Mr. Wilkie repaired to London early in the year 1805 and became a student of the Royal Academy. Here he devoted himself with extraordinary assiduity to the study of the

the profession he had adopted. As he was unable to find purchasers, even at very low prices, for pictures executed in the style in which he so highly excels, he was at first obliged to confine his pencil to portraits.

His talents were thus buried in obscurity till the exhibition of the Royal Academy in 1806. Some time prior to this he had received a commission from Lord Mansfield to paint a picture from any subject he might think proper. Mr. Wilkie selected one from Macniel's celebrated poem entitled Scotland's Scaith, or the History of Will and Jean. All who are acquainted with the work must acknowledge that he could not have made a more judicious choice of a scene, as it forms one of the most prominent features in the poem, which is intended to enforce the idea, that excessive drinking and politics are the scaith or bane of the lower classes of the community in Scotland.

This picture represents a scene of the politicians of lower life, collected in a public house, after the labors of the day, disputing upon some point of politics which may be supposed at that moment to have interested every class of society, and to have found its way into the shop of the mechanic, and the cottage of the husbandman. In the principal group the light falls on Will, a young carpenter, who, from the shrewd winking of his eyes, the expression of his mouth, the extended arm, with the acute angle of the wrist, and the end of the fore-finger on the table happily conveys a self-approbation of the sagacity and superiority of his mind over those of his hearers. He appears to be engaged in warm dispute with a figure on his left hand, who seems extremely anxious for an opportunity to reply;

reply; but the carpenter, determined to proceed, is directing his discourse to a venerable-looking man who sits opposite to him with spectacles on his nose, and apparently acts as umpire between the contending parties. Close to Will's opponent, at the farther end of the table, is placed another figure, who seems to be carelessly balancing the argument with a knife with which he has been carving the bread and cheese that lies upon the table, together with drinking-vessels, &c. The figures of the two disputants are admirably characteristic of the conceit which a little knowledge produces upon vulgar minds; they evince great observation of rustic nature and the influence of the little heats of parties and politics on such as would naturally be supposed beyond the sphere of their operation.

The countenance of Will, as well as every part of his figure is extremely expressive; he appears to be exerting all his powers to convince his antagonist, who, on the contrary, seems to be thoroughly satisfied of the fallacy of his arguments, and only wants an opportunity to expose it. The expression in the countenance of the umpire is most exquisitely delineated; he appears cool, deliberate, and candid, as if weighing maturely the question in agitation. Indeed, we have no hesitation to assert, that this head was never excelled even by Teniers himself. In a half tint, behind Will, sits an old man reading a newspaper, which Macneil describes as the *Gazetteer*, a violent anti-ministerial print published at Edinburgh, and which powerfully tended to inflame the minds of the people. The expression of the face of the reader, indicates with great felicity his composed and settled acquiescence in

in the conclusions of his own mind, and his undaunted adherence to his own opinions, amidst the din of his battling associates. He is easy and quiet, and thinks for himself; while another man in the opposite part of the picture, is scratching his head, seemingly sensible, that he does not possess the haranguing eloquence of the carpenter, but tolerably confident in his own mind that he is the best informed man in the room. Several figures in shadow lounging about the fire, several of which are engaged in dispute, form the subordinate group of this excellent performance. Nearer the fore-ground, is a child eating something of which a dog seems very desirous of partaking, and close to them stands a bench, under which are kitchen utensils. In the opposite corner of the room is the landlady coming out of a closet, with bottles, &c. to furnish her customers with a fresh supply of liquor. A fine gloomy repose pervades the back-ground and the figures in shadow, and gives astonishing brilliancy to the principal group.

This rare display of juvenile talent, was sent by our artist to the exhibition of the Royal academy, for 1806, where it shone like a star of the first brilliancy among the productions by which it was surrounded. At the dinner which, it is well known, is annually given by the Royal Academy, previous to the opening of the exhibition, to the most distinguished amateurs and other eminent characters, Mr. Angerstein, the munificent patron and consummate judge of the fine arts, instantly discovered the merits of Mr. Wilkie's performance. He called to it the attention of the Prince of Wales and the other gentlemen present, as to an extraordinary phenomenon in modern painting, declar-

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ing that it possessed all the spirit of a Teniers, accompanied by the humor of a Hogarth. Such an encomium from such a man would, doubtless, have been highly flattering to the most renowned artist: the reader may then judge how soothing, how encouraging must have been its effect on the mind of a mere youth, whose name was yet totally unknown, and who was now just emerging from obscurity. Nor was this all; the public unanimously coincided in the sentiments expressed by Mr. Angerstein, and Wilkie was immediately ranked among the most eminent of his profession.

On the first day of the exhibition, when our young artist went to gratify himself with a survey of the latest productions of the British school, he met Mr. Fuseli, the master of the academy, whose attention to his students is as honorable to his character, as his professional excellence is to his genius. He had always taken the most friendly notice of Wilkie. Addressing him on this occasion, he pointed to his performance, observing that it was a very dangerous picture, for, if he did not surpass it in his next attempt, it would prove fatal to his newly-acquired reputation. "Young man," continued he, "this day will prove either the most auspicious, or the most unfortunate of your life." By this emphatic expression, Mr. Fuseli, it is presumed, intended to convey a most important lesson to the mind of his youthful and inexperienced pupil. He meant to say, "This day, on which your talents are for the first time displayed to the world, will open you a path to fortune, fame, and eminence, if by assiduous study you endeavour to mature the abilities you possess, and make prudence and modesty the guides of your

your future conduct. If, on the contrary, you indulge that arrogance and self-sufficiency which success is apt to excite; if you listen to the needy flatterers which never fail to surround rising eminence; if you suffer yourself to be drawn aside, by their allurements, into the paths of indolence, dissipation, and vice, inevitable destruction awaits you; and the more conspicuous your talents, the more signal will be the ruin in which you will be involved."

A most striking illustration of the truth of this advice, may be found in the history of the late unfortunate George Morland, whose life, written by Mr. Hassell, (himself an artist,) cannot be too earnestly recommended to the perusal, not only of every artist, but of every young man, let his profession be what it will, on his entrance into society. Example operates much more powerfully than precept; and the fate of Morland could not fail to make a profound impression on the mind of every youth who cherishes the ambition of honorable distinction. But to return to the subject of our memoir.

It has been already observed that the "Village Politicians," was painted, by Mr. Wilkie, for the Earl of Mansfield. We regret that truth obliges us to state, that his lordship's conduct with regard to this picture, was not calculated to confer any honor on his character, either as a man of fortune, or a patron of the arts. Having hesitated to give the very low sum of ten guineas at first required by Mr. Wilkie, the latter, after the merits of the piece were universally acknowledged, thought himself justified in demanding an advance upon the price he had before asked. His lordship with a truly mercantile spirit, was a considerable

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time in coming to a decision; and such was the high sense of honour entertained by our young artist, that among the various offers made by gentlemen who were eager to possess this juvenile master-piece, he even refused one of two hundred guineas! The price he received from Lord Mansfield was fifteen guineas.

The promise of future excellence held out by the "Village Politicians," is confirmed by a subsequent production, which has served to convince the public that Mr. Wilkie's former picture was not a work of accident, a mere lucky casualty, but that his powers are those of a regular, steady, and improving genius. We have no hesitation in asserting that the piece to which we here allude, not only excels what he first exhibited, but that it far exceeds every thing of a similar style which has hitherto proceeded from the British pencil.

The subject is a "Blind Fiddler, playing on his fiddle, in a house where he has stopped to rest himself, for the entertainment of the master, his wife, and children."—The fiddler is seated in the act of playing; next to him is his wife, with her child on her lap, and at her feet a basket, containing the little *pedlary* wares which she has to sell. At the feet of the fiddler lie his fiddle-case, and some scattered domestic utensils, and kitchen herbs, just brought in for the use of the family. The group of figures at the other end of the picture, which balances in composition that of the fiddler and his wife, consists of the mistress of the house, and her child on her lap; the master of the house snapping his fingers, and looking with great glee upon his child, with the design of inviting it to laugh and dance, and exhibit its perception of youthful joy at the sound of the fiddle. Near the master of the house, stands,

stands, with his back to the fire, a sober, thinking man, seemingly the grandfather of the younger part of the family. He listens with great complacency to the rustic musician, but is evidently more impressed with humane compassion at the situation of the *Poor Fiddler*, than delighted with the efforts of his skill. At the fire-place sits a young lad, in the train of the fiddler, wrapt up in the comforts of the chimney-corner, and indifferent to every thing besides. Between the mother and the fiddler are two children, a boy and a girl; the girl exhibits a fondness for music, and presses forward with an eager familiarity; but the boy is peevish and sulky, and shews that he neither likes the music nor the company of the fiddler and his family. Behind the mother is the eldest boy, about twelve years old: he has in his hand a small pair of bellows, which he has placed under his chin, in imitation of the blind man's fiddle, and with a stick, in mockery of the bow, is ridiculously aping the fiddler. Near him is a girl, somewhat older than himself, who rebukes him for the unmannerliness of his jest, and is endeavouring to shame him out of it. There are altogether twelve figures. The front of the chimney forms the centre of the back ground, on which are shelves, containing a variety of domestic utensils, and upon the uppermost shelf are books, in the midst of which is a plaster bust, in appropriate colours, of a dissenting clergyman; and in order to shew that the family are not without a taste for the *fine arts*, besides that of music, the walls are ornamented with drawings on pieces of paper, representing soldiers, ships, and horses, evidently the manufacture of the boy above noticed.—Near the boy, who is mocking the fiddler, is

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his dog, in deep dudgeon at this disturbance and intrusion upon his domestic repose. The light and shade of this picture are equally fortunate with the expression of the characters. The principal light, as well as the brilliancy of colour, falls upon the mistress of the house and her child; this is balanced by a second light at the other end of the picture, behind the fiddler, which is admitted by the door, and thus, by means of these two principal lights, the fiddler is placed in a kind of half tint, which gives a surprising breadth and repose to the composition; whilst the shadow, occasioned by the group of the husband, the grandfather and the children, gives to the whole a general and accumulated force, and renders the half tint over the fiddler clear and transparent. The general tone over the back ground is a cool aërial tint, which gives great relief and strength to the colours of the draperies.

When we contemplate the different characters of the figures, we find in the fiddler the man who has no other pursuit than the occupation of his present trade; in his wife, the care of her child, asleep upon her lap, and the charge committed to her of the little pedlary articles, impresses her countenance with perfect impassiveness as to any enjoyment for the music, and does away all concern but of that which might be the compensation of her husband's talents, and their treatment upon the conclusion of the tune. The master and mistress of the house seem to have no other pleasure than that which the music is supposed to give to their child.

These are the leading points in one of the most extraordinary pictures, in this line of art, which has ever made its appearance in England by a native. Whether

ther we consider the ingenious manner of bringing the materials of this picture together, the diversity and justness of the characters and expressions of the figures, with the correctness of drawing, even to the most minute parts; the light and shade, as well as the truth of colour, and the neatness of execution,—whatever parts we singly consider, it would be matter of difficulty upon which we should most fix our admiration.—We cannot forbear congratulating Mr. Wilkie upon his most perfect success in this second effort of his pencil; and our congratulations are no less due to the worthy Baronet for whom this picture, we understand, is painted.

It is generally supposed that Mr. Wilkie has imitated the style of the celebrated Teniers, but we believe he had never seen a picture by that master when he produced his representation of the Fair; though there is a similarity in the manner, which may, however, be easily accounted for. Teniers drew from nature, and it is nature that our youthful artist has made the object of his study. Of the former it has been justly said, that "he studied nature in every shape, with a most curious and critical observation, and as he generally composed his subjects from persons in low stations, he accustomed himself to frequent their meetings, at sports and pastimes; and by that means had an opportunity of remarking the simplicity of their manners, and the various actions, attitudes, characters, and passions of every age and sex. From such observations, he had nature always present to his imagination in whatever he composed; and was enabled to give his figures such truth and such expression as must for ever ensure his works the approbation of the best judges."

judges." These observations may with equal propriety be applied to Mr. Wilkie. He has been no less curious in his observation of the peasantry in the neighbourhood of the place of his nativity; and, even in the streets of the metropolis, he has been seen to stop and to pay great attention to groups of low characters. He has constant recourse to nature for every individual part, and even the minutest objects, in his compositions; and this method must necessarily give his work a great degree of truth and precision. He engages such characters as he accidentally meets, or thinks adapted to his purpose; and we have been informed that the old man in spectacles in the "Village Politicians," was painted from a person who cries brooms in the streets of London.

The following anecdote is too intimately connected with this subject to be omitted. Walking one day in the streets, Mr. Wilkie perceived a poor woman singing ballads. He was struck with her grotesque appearance, which he contemplated a few moments in silence. He then called the woman aside, and told her that if she would accompany him to his residence, for the purpose of taking a sketch of her figure, he would present her with half a crown. The poor creature willingly agreed to the proposal, but artlessly replied, that she must first go home to *wash* herself, and put on a *clean* apron. To this our artist of course objected, as it would have totally defeated the purpose he had in view, by destroying the picturesque effect of her appearance.

In Mr. Wilkie's mode of proceeding with the execution of his pieces, there is one singularity which deserves notice. He first makes a small, slight sketch

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in oil, in which he roughly marks the position and grouping of the figures, with the general effect. He then transfers his sketch to the canvas or pannel upon which he intends to finish his picture; by which time he seems to have grasped the subject completely in his mind. He now begins at the highest light and finishes the head of the principal figures the whole of which he gradually completes. He then passes the next in consequence in the composition, which he finishes, and thus proceeds till every figure seems perfect. This done, he puts in the breadth of colour and minute articles in the back-ground, in order to relieve the figures, and the picture is finished, with the exception of a few trifling alterations or glazings. It must be obvious to every one, that this extraordinary manner must require great strength of mind in the artist, to retain so perfectly what he has at first conceived.

With respect to the character of the extraordinary youth of whom we are treating, we rejoice to find that he is not likely to be puffed up by the ill-timed adulation of his *fashionable patrons*, nor misled by the ridiculous whims and conceits of the *whole host of connoisseurs*; that he still feels himself but a student in painting, and is resolved to spare no pains nor labour in the attainment of the grand object of his ambition. We cannot forbear contemplating the pieces he has already produced as the pledges of future excellence, and hail with joy the bright dawning of a day, to the meridian splendour of which, we look forward with the most agreeable anticipation, and the most unbounded confidence.

EARL OF LAUDERDALE.

At a moment when the destinies of a great nation are entrusted, as it were, to one man, the public must naturally be anxious to be informed of every particular relating to the individual so selected. Whether it be owing to his birth, to his connections, or to his talents, that so great a confidence is reposed in him, curiosity is alike awakened, and longs to be satisfied. To contribute to the gratification of such a passion is surely a laudable endeavour.

If birth impart celebrity, the Earl of Lauderdale, now employed on an important mission to France, must rank high in public estimation; as no less than three creations of nobility have taken place among his lineal descendants, one at the latter end of the tenth, and two more at the beginning of the seventeenth century. The family of Maitland, du Matulant, or Maitlant, is of great antiquity in the Scottish annals, and the office of hereditary standard-bearer, which the earls still enjoy, fully attests its honourable descent, as well as its exalted reputation in former periods. The barony of Thirlestane, in the county of Berwick, is the place where the ancient barons of this race resided. The famous Duke of Lauderdale, alike celebrated for his favour with Charles II. and for the arbitrary principles on which he governed Scotland, was of this family

family, being the eldest son of the first Earl. At his death in 1682, without children, his English titles of Baron Petersham and Earl of Guildford, as well as his Scotch dukedom, became extinct.

With the precise period of the present Earl's birth we are unacquainted, but it was somewhere about the year 1760. Both his grandfather and father had numerous families; and as their patrimony was not large, many of the younger children entered into the army, in consequence of which, several of his lordship's brothers and uncles attained the rank of general officers. It is not improbable indeed, that he himself, instead of negotiating in the cabinet, would have experienced a similar destination, and have been maintaining the honour of Britain in the tented field, had not Valdave Charles Lauder, Viscount Maitland, died while an infant; by which event, having become heir-apparent to the earldom, a different prospect presented itself.

Having in his earlier years acquired a due portion of classical and scientific knowledge, he visited England and the continent. On his return to this country, after his foreign tour, he married Miss Todd, the only daughter of the late Anthony Todd, esq. secretary to the post-office.

As Lord Maitland, he sat during several years in the House of Commons, previous to his father's death. In the parliament which met in 1780, he was returned a member for Newport in Cornwall, and in 1783 gave his most strenuous support to Mr. Fox's celebrated India Bill. Previously to this, however, in 1781 he distinguished himself by supporting Mr. Burke's important Reform Bill. His speech on the latter occasion was characterized by a force and splendour of diction

diction not always to be met with. He complimented the mover by observing "that he was, perhaps, the only man in the country whose powers were equal to so systematic and generous a reform. He had connected liberality with interest: he had made it policy to be generous. It was not a little wretched scheme of intrenchment, breaking in upon the dignity of the crown, or the honour of the nation, but a great and beautiful arrangement of office, calculated to ornament the court, instead of degrading it. It destroyed the underwood of grandeur, the bushes under which the serpent of influence lurked, and from which, unseen, it stung and tainted the dignity of the constitution. It cut away the contaminating excrescences, and by this means it purified instead of injuring the tree itself. It gave stability to power, by relieving it from the burdens by which it was oppressed. It was calculated to strip off the poisonous shirt with which the Hercules of the constitution was invested, and in which he laboured in all the agonies of death. Œconomy was the remedy which we must apply. It was the sovereign specific by which we might yet avert the consequences of consumptive decline. Those who objected to the present bill did in fact declare that œconomy was not necessary, or not proper, and that corrupt influence ought to be maintained."

This bill, notwithstanding the talents by which it was supported, was rejected by a majority of 233 to 190; though it was afterwards carried, with considerable alterations.

At the expiration of about seven years after his marriage, the demise of his father having occurred, the subject of the present memoir, as a matter of course,

 assumed

assumed the title, and came into possession of the estates of the Earl of Lauderdale. At the general election which ensued, his youthful ambition was still further gratified by his being elected one of the sixteen peers of Scotland, for the parliament which met in the winter of 1790. That he might be enabled to pay the most sedulous attention to his legislative duties, his Lordship took a house in Great George-Street, Westminster, where he constantly resided during the winter.

At that period the opposition ranked high in talents, respectability, and popularity. Considering Mr. Pitt as having obtained power by unfair and dishonourable means, they appeared pledged to the people and to each other to combine their most energetic efforts to force him from the helm of the state. Attached by family connections to this party, and initiated in their principles from his infancy, it followed, as a natural consequence, that the young Earl should try his maiden spear against the squadrons of the minister. Existing circumstances proved highly favourable to any attack that might be made by the opponents of administration. A war had actually commenced with the late Tippoo Saib, concerning two forts which had been ceded by the Dutch; and the fate of Oczakow, in which we appeared to be but remotely interested, seemed likely to involve us in a contest with Russia. In the month of April, 1791, Lord Porchester, after a speech of considerable length, moved three resolutions, censuring all schemes of conquest and extension of dominion in India, as repugnant to the wish and policy of the nation, condemning the existing war with the Sultaun of Mysore, and recommending to the

Court

Court of Directors and the Board of Controul to take the necessary steps for procuring an immediate peace, on moderate and equitable terms.——Lord Grenville having supported the Indian contest as justly undertaken on the part of the allies, the Earl of Lauderdale rose to reply. He began by condemning the unfair modes which were resorted to, upon the present and every other occasion, by calling for the approbation of that system which ministers refused to give any account of, or cause for; and concluded a speech of much eloquence by warning their Lordships not to give their countenance or approbation to any treaties or systems that had been formed upon a spirit of conquest, and a wish to extend territorial possessions, however unjust the means of acquisition might be; and he contended that the infamous treaty now upon the table, as well as the whole system pursued in India, proceeded upon that love of intrigue and conquest which ought to be deprecated by every good man, and every lover of his country. He also particularly cautioned their Lordships not to give their approbation to ministers upon blind confidence, at a time when we saw them attempting to introduce the same system with respect to Russia, that they had followed with Tippoo.——On the division of the house, the motion for censure was lost by a majority of 77, the contents and proxies being 96, and the non-contents and proxies 19; but the majority was only 52 on the motions of Lord Grenville in approbation of the war.

The 20th of March, 1792, was appointed for the second reading of the bill to remove doubts respecting the functions of juries in cases of libel. The Lord Chancellor intimated a wish to consult the judges respecting

specting the law of the land, in this case, Lord Lauderdale opposed this intention; and in reply to what Lord Grenville had hinted, "that power was of so intoxicating a nature, that whether assumed or not assumed, there were but few who wished to resign it," his lordship concluded with observing, "that he saw no sense in asking the opinion of the judges on a bill which had the limitation of their own power for an object."

It must be in the recollection of most of our readers, that, notwithstanding the numerous impediments that were thrown in the way of this measure, which was originally suggested by Mr. Fox in the lower house, it at length passed into a law.

A few days after this debate, a Mr. Cookesay was brought up to the bar of the house to answer for a challenge, which originated in a letter from that gentleman to Lord Coventry. Mr. Cookesay's cause of resentment against his lordship proceeded from the conduct of the latter as an executive officer. Lord Lauderdale took a very active part on this occasion, contending that the offence which Mr. Cookesay had committed was not a breach of privilege, "The precedent of the Duke of Grafton and Earl Pomfret," he said, "did not at all apply to this case; there their lordships had to *prevent* an event that was dreaded; here they were to *punish* an *offence* committed: and when he mentioned the offence, he would allow that the letter was a gross and scandalous libel, and contained such assertions and scandalous epithets, as justified the severest treatment from the person they were addressed to; but still, taking it in this light, there was a substantial and fair remedy by a common action

tion at law; and while that was the case, he contended it ought not to be taken up as a breach of privilege."

His Lordship was now unremittingly attentive to his parliamentary duties, and scarcely ever expressed his opinion by means of a simple affirmative or negative, more especially after the commencement of the late war.

His Majesty, at the opening of the session of parliament in December, 1793, stated, "that having judged it necessary to embody a part of the militia of the kingdom, he had, in pursuance of the provisions of the law, called them together within the limited time for that purpose."

At this period the ranks of opposition lost some of their most able members. To those who remained, however, the proclamation alluded to in the royal speech, was matter of great and serious offence: at least they chose to seize upon it, as an object by which to ingratiate themselves with the populace of the country. Lord Lauderdale, in particular, remained firm at his post. He severely censured the ministers who had advised the proclamation, made some remarks on the encampments about to be formed *for the purpose of over-awing the people*, and concluded by moving a similar amendment to that produced by Mr. Grey in the other house, and widely different from the original address, as it conveyed a censure upon his majesty's ministers, commended the renewal of the investigation into the causes of the Birmingham riots, and the conduct of the magistrates on that occasion, &c. The Marquis of Lansdown, father to the present Lord Henry Petty, not only supported the earl, but condemned

demned the proclamation, as founded neither on precedent, policy, nor expediency.

Lord Lauderdale, notwithstanding he opposed the ministers in every thing that might, in his opinion, lead to the miseries attendant on a foreign war, on one hand, or domestic tyranny on the other, appears to have opposed them solely on the ground of political principle; for, when any subject occurred favorable to the interests of humanity, he was one of the first to second their efforts. Accordingly, in the spring of 1793, when Lord Abingdon moved for delaying for five months the evidence on the slave-trade, which, in other terms, meant to put an end to the enquiry, Lord Lauderdale joined Lord Grenville, the Bishop of St. David's, &c. in opposing this proposition, which consequently proved abortive.

In the course of the same session of parliament, his Lordship opposed the Traiterous Correspondence Bill, and reprobated the two commissioners appointed under the East India Bill, "as a novelty which the framers of it had not claimed, as they professed to be guided by experience alone." He also objected to the Alien Bill, and loudly censured Lord Grenville for implicating the whole French nation in the horrid crimes of some individuals.

The conduct of the National Convention towards the unfortunate Louis was highly disapproved by Lord Lauderdale; yet he affected to consider it as equally unfair and unpolitic to seize on that occasion for a declaration of war. Accordingly, when the Secretary of State for the Foreign Department, moved for an address to be presented to his majesty, expressive of abhorrence of the late atrocious act perpetrated in

France,

France, assuring his majesty of the support of the house to the measures of govetnment, and of its co-operation in augmenting the forces by land and sea," his lordship not only reprobated hostilities, but all the measures preceding or arising out of them;—the *assignat* bill, as intended to depreciate the French paper currency; the Naval Store Bill, on account of its partiality; and the Alien Bill, on account of the inquisitorial powers invested in the magistrates, &c.

Thus did the Earl of Lauderdale, in the most steady and determined manner, oppose every measure of administration bearing the slightest semblance of hostility against France.

After what has been noticed, it is not surprising to find that, when the Marquis of Lansdown made a motion (February, 1797) for an address to the king, "requesting his majesty would regard the prospect, circumstances, and effects of the war, and establish peace as soon as he conveniently could, to his own honor, and the safety and advantage of Britain," we should find the name of Lauderdale with that of Guildford, Grafton, &c. included in the list of those who supported the affirmative. On the question being put, however, the advocates of peace were left in a very trifling minority, thirteen peers, including a single proxy, being all that voted in the affirmative: while the negative consisted of no less than eighty-six, and seventeen proxies, thus constituting a majority of ninety.

The permitting of a body of Hessian troops to be introduced into the kingdom without the previous consent of parliament, was another measure very seriously condemned by the Earl of Lauderdale. A few days after this, he objected in full parliament to the words

just

just and necessary war, as applied to the contest then taking place. At the period of the voluntary donations, he also moved, "that it is dangerous and unconstitutional to levy mony for public use by private subscription, contribution, or benevolence, without the consent of parliament." The motion was lost by eighty-two against seven.

Still acting as a thorn in the sides of ministers, his lordship next moved "for a production of the minutes of the proceedings in the trial of Messrs. Muir and Palmer," with a view of censuring their condemnation; he also termed the Emigrant Bill, which was soon after brought into the house of peers, "a sanguinary bill, calculated to make Frenchmen cut Frenchmen's throats, and totally inconsistent with the idea of national justice."

His lordship was somewhat more fortunate in the ensuing session of parliament (1795); for, at the period of granting a loan to the Emperor, he succeeded, in consequence of a variety of questions relative to the security to be given for the repayment of money, in extorting from one of the members of the cabinet, a confession that they had no other security than the word of his Imperial Majesty.

On the marriage of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, a message was sent to the peers, recommending "the propriety of making an ample provision for the Prince's establishments, and forming a plan for the payment of his debts, for appropriating for a time the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall, and a proportion of his Royal Highness's other incomes; and that proper steps may be taken for the regulation of his Royal Highness's expenditure, and to prevent any new incumbrance."

incumbrance."---The Earl of Lauderdale, with many others, conceived that the Prince was somewhat harshly treated on this occasion; and, maintaining that the amount of the revenue vested in his Royal Highness, and ought to be accounted for during his minority, he intimated a wish to submit the subject, in the form of a question, to the judges.

When Lord Grenville, in the month of November, 1795, introduced a bill, entitled "an act for the farther security of his Majesty's person," not only making it high treason to kill, wound, or assault the king, but constituting it a high misdemeanor to utter any seditious expression, tending to excite disaffection in his Majesty's subjects, and lawful for the magistrates to stop any public meetings likely to breed discontent in the public mind, &c. Lord Lauderdale seized the earliest opportunity to express his reprobation of so extraordinary a measure. He considered it as an attempt to deprive Englishmen of the only valuable right which they still possessed---that of assembling and declaring their sentiments on political questions: such a proceeding, he said, militated against all the ministerial declarations of the loyalty of the people, for if they were loyal, this measure was unnecessary.

In the spring of 1796, his lordship having moved for a list of pensions then recently granted, in which was included that which had been bestowed on the Right Honourable Edmund Burke, to endeavour to establish the position, that, according to the appropriation act, and the uniform practice of parliament, the produce of the four and a half per cents. was applicale alone to local, not to general circumstances. He accordingly made a motion to this effect, on which the

the house divided, for the motion, contents 6, proxies 4—non-contents 42, proxies 31.

In consequence of the unremitting hostility which the Earl of Lauderdale had evinced towards ministers, it was natural to supppose, that, at the dissolution of parliament which took place in 1796, their whole influence would be exerted against him at the ensuing election. Accordingly on the meeting of the peers of Scotland on the 7th of July, 1796, for the purpose of selecting sixteen members out of that body, to represent them in the Upper House, the name of Lord Lauderdale appeared in the list of those excluded. In consequence of this his lordship entered the following protest :—

"I James, Earl of Lauderdale, do protest, that the clerks of session, officiating at this election of peers to sit in the ensuing parliament, shall not receive the vote of any peer of Scotland, created a peer of Great Britain since the Union ; and not having in his person an English peerage created before that period, for the following among other reasons :—

"That it is inconsistent with the law and constitution of this country, and with every principle of representation by election, as also with the true interest and meaning of the twenty-second article of the Union, and of the eighth act of the parliament of Scotland, 1707, confirmed in the parliament of England, and declared by both, to be equally valid, as if it had been engrossed in the treaty of Union, that no peer of Scotland sitting in the parliament of Great Britain, by virtue of a patent of peerage granted since the said Union, should also elect a peer to represent him.

(Signed,) "LAUDERDALE."

His

His lordship entered two other protests objecting to the vote of the late Earl of Errol.

Hitherto we have only noticed the Earl of Lauderdale in his parliamentary conduct; we have now to consider him as an author, in which character he appeared, for the first time, in the year 1794.

Aware, from the line of proceeding which he had adopted in parliament, that his name would not appear in the ministerial lists on the next election; and smarting under the lashes which he had received from the partizans of government, he prepared, during a short stay at South End, in Essex, a series of letters addressed *To the Peers of Scotland*. In these, the earl alludes to the "scenes of unparalleled disasters that have followed one another," as well as the system of scandalous insinuations and disgraceful calumny, carried on by men, supposed to be under the influence of government. "If therefore," says his lordship, "a sense of the first, which is pretty generally felt, can vindicate, in your minds, the attempt I am about to make, I should flatter myself, that none can abstain from sympathizing with the desire I feel, by fair and plain explanation, of doing away the effect which may have been unjustly produced by the last."

The first of his lordship's letters was dedicated to the subject of the French revolution. Alluding to the declaration of Mr. Pitt, in his memorable speech on the finances, in February, 1792, "'That unquestionably there never was a time when, from the situation of Europe, we might more reasonably expect fifteen years of peace, than we may at the present moment;' with what astonishment," says his lordship, "will he, who at a future period reads the history of the day,

see within a few pages, all those prospects of peace and security vanish before his eyes. With what astonishment must every one retrace in his recollection, that though it is little more than two years since the declaration was made, this country has been engaged, for near a year and a half, in one of the most expensive and disastrous wars of which our history affords us any recollection—has been with industry employed, by remonstrances, intrigues, and subsidies, in endeavouring to engage every European power in the conflict; and in pursuing a system that none ever held out more strongly as destructive to our interests than those who have been the promoters and conductors of of it!"

A material point in this letter, seems to be, to prove that the fate of our first Charles, as well as the overthrow of the old establishment of France, originated in financial arrangements; and the inference is, that, unless an economical reform be introduced, similar effects may be again dreaded in this country. The injustice of the war against France is strongly insisted on; his lordship insisting, that a revolution in France was absolutely necessary; that the revolution which had taken place, was a revolution of opinion; and that the war which we were carrying on was not against armies, but against an armed nation.

In the second letter, our departure from the system of neutrality, is ascribed solely to the 'intrigues for power amongst the members of the late cabinet, and the annihilation of the late opposition, as a party, to the art of one man.--In our humble opinion, however it may happen to differ from that of Lord Lauderdale, the annihilation of a party so formidable as that of the

 opposition

opposition alluded to, by "*one man*," was a splendid proof of the talents of that truly illustrious personage.

Lord Lauderdale, in his third and last letter, contends that the war, which was then raging, was absolutely necessary to the interest of the premier. He also animadverts, at considerable length, on the impolicy of dividing the combined army, for the purpose of undertaking the siege of Dunkirk; and on the gross folly of keeping Lord Moira's troops in a state of inactivity for more than six months.

As it is perfectly fair, that every man should be permitted to explain his own motives for writing or acting, we shall here allow our noble author that privilege, by quoting the conclusion of his last letter.—"I have now," says his lordship, "completed my original intention; and if I have defeated the calumnious insinuations that have been thrown out; if I have shewn plainly and intelligibly the principles I have acted upon, my object is effected; if my language has been strong, it appears to me to suit the nature of the times; I entertain no personal animosity against any man; political conduct is the only source of my attack; I look not for applause, neither do I apprehend censure; for I know my purpose to be honest, and the execution must necessarily be such as might reasonably be expected from one who has now, certainly for the first time, most probably for the last, endeavored to attract the attention of his constituents and his countrymen."

Mr. Gifford, now one of the magistrates for the county of Middlesex, published a very energetic answer to those letters of Lord Lauderdale, which he represents as exhibiting inconsistencies that ought to be

 reconciled,

reconciled, errors that call for exposure, and misrepresentations that require correction. There are but few impartial readers, we believe, who will not allow that Mr. Gifford has the better side of the argument.

In 1797, Lord Lauderdale published a quarto pamphlet, entitled, "*Thoughts on Finance, suggested by the measures of the present Session*;" which was a direct attack on Mr. Pitt, as a financier. His lordship, amongst other things, successfully contended, that, in the proposition to fund navy and exchequer bills, to the amount of 15,000,000*l.* an inconsiderate waste had been occasioned, in consequence of an inattention to the scale of prices. His lordship contended here, as he has done in many of his speeches, that the French revolution originated in financial errors; and that, if similar errors were acted upon in this country, similar results must be expected.

The last literary production of Lord Lauderdale, entitled, "*An Enquiry into the Nature and Origin of public Wealth, and into the Means and Causes of its Increase,*" was published at Edinburgh, in the spring of 1805, and is dedicated to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. This volume is expected to be followed by another on the same subject. The following passage, from the volume already published, will prove that the noble author materially differs from many preceding writers on the subject of political economy. His lordship observes, "not only that the sum total of individual riches cannot be considered as an accurate description or definition of the wealth of a nation; but, that on the contrary, it may be generally affirmed, that an increase of riches, when arising from alterations in the quantity of commodities, is always a proof of

of an immediate diminution of wealth, and a diminution of riches is evidence of an immediate increase of wealth: and this proportion will be found invariably true with the exception of a single case, which will be afterwards explained. Thus it becomes necessary to adopt a definition of public wealth, which conveys a different idea of it from what has been generally received; and it is therefore submitted that wealth may be actually defined *to consist of all that man desires as useful or delightful to him.*"

From the unremitting support, which, for so many years, Lord Lauderdale had given to his political friends, it was perfectly natural, that, on their attainment of power, they should endeavor to reward him for his services. He was accordingly fixed upon by his Majesty's ministers, to fill the honorable and lucrative office of Governor-general of India. This appointment, however, was objected to by the East India Company, in consequence of which it was abandoned, and a new arrangement was made, more satisfactory to the directors in Leadenhall-Street.

An opportunity having presented itself to government, for a negociation for peace with France, Lord Lauderdale was sent on that important mission. As far as his political principles are concerned, his lordship is certainly entitled to the greatest attention from the French government, and so far his appointment may be founded on good policy; but his total want of experience in diplomatic concerns, has been urged as a strong objection. It is indeed generally thought, that had it not been for the illness of Mr. Fox, that statesman's nephew, Lord Holland, would have been employed on the occasion. Should Lord Lauderdale, however,

ever, succeed in his endeavors for bringing about a peace with France, that event will, in all probability, be the source of new honors for himself and his family.

In private life, the Earl of Lauderdale is a nobleman of high character, and unquestionable honor. He is strongly attached to literature, and devotes much of his time to philosophical and political investigation. His lordship's eldest son, James Viscount Maitland, is now about of age. His Lordship has two brothers in the army. The elder, the Hon. T. Maitland, received a commission, as colonel, in 1798, and served with the rank of a general officer in the West Indies. He sat in a former parliament, and also in the present, for the borough of Judburgh, Haddington, Dunbar, North Berwick, and Lauder. Lord Lauderdale's other brother, the Hon. W. M. Maitland, attained the rank of colonel in the promotion which took place on the 1st of January, 1801.

For several years, Lord Lauderdale has been in a very delicate state of health. In the month of August, 1792, a removal to a warmer climate having been thought necessary by his physicians, his lordship, accompanied by the late celebrated Dr. Moore, went over to the continent, with an intention of visiting Italy, and of passing at least a winter in some of the great cities in which that delightful country abounds. Proceeding by easy stages, they reached Paris previously to the memorable 10th of August. On the morning of that day, they were alarmed by the sounding of the toscin, and the firing of the cannon; and were consequently in the immediate vicinity of that scene which commenced with the Tuileries, and concluded

with

with the execution of Louis XVI.—The horrible massacres which ensued, rendered his lordship's farther residence in Paris not only unpleasant, but unsafe, and he accordingly left it, after a stay of little more than three weeks.—The following circumstance occurred to his lordship, when in the neighborhood of Lisle:—"A body of *gens d'armes*, who were hastening to the relief of that important fortress, then invested by the Austrians, on perceiving the carriage, immediately exclaimed, *Vive la Nation! Vive la Nation!* which was of course followed by a suitable answer as well on the part of the company within, as the attendants on the outside of the carriage. But this ceremony having become fatiguing in consequence of the frequency with which it occurred, one of the servants at length omitted to make the proper reply, on which the soldier seized the bridle of his horse, and ordered him to repeat the words. As the man did not immediately comply, another levelled his piece, and would have probably fired, had not Lord Lauderdale immediately interposed and stated that the delinquent was an Englishman, who did not understand their language. On this the soldier raised his musket, and a young officer waved his hat, exclaiming at the same time, "*Vivant les Anglois!*"—When they arrived at the first post-house, they found part of the same detachment carousing and singing patriotic songs. Elevated with wine, and intoxicated with those dreams of glory, since but too fully realized, they already talked of driving the *beggarly Austrians* from before Lisle, after which they declared their intention to follow them to Brussels, where they would pass the winter. This interview was not wholly unattended with danger, for one of them addressing

Lord

Lord Lauderdale, told him plainly that he saw he was an Englishman, but he hoped not a lord, for all the members of the house of peers were * * * * * * * * *."

Lord Lauderdale, finding that the distracted situation of France rendered the idea of passing through the southern departments of that country extremely uncomfortable, determined to postpone his journey to Italy until a more convenient season, and accordingly returned to England in the course of the winter.

As his lordship's health, we believe, is not yet fully re-established, it is of course to be wished, that his present continental excursion may contribute to an event so desirable to his family.

THE LATE RIGHT HONORABLE

ADAM LORD VISCOUNT DUNCAN.

"The Heavenly maid, with strength divine endued
His daring soul; there all her powers combin'd:
Firm constancy, undaunted fortitude,
Enduring patience, arm'd his mighty mind,
Unmov'd in toils, in dangers undismay'd."

SPENCER.

It is a pleasure to dwell upon the memory of departed heroes. We listen, with delight, to their history; and, amidst the emulative feelings which it excites, we seem to participate in the scene of historic renown. This passion is inherent, even from our cradles. We are there charmed with the exploits of giants and of fairies; and, as we become "children of larger growth," we experience the same interest in the conflicts of real life. Our naval heroes, in particular, never fail of securing their portion of attention from every class.

The immortal Nelson was not cast in the mould of either Hercules or Apollo; nor was Alexander the Great a model of gigantic beauty; yet, with the idea of

of a hero, we are too apt to assimilate that of a "man of mighty bone." With respect to the late illustrious Admiral Lord Duncan, whose exploits we are about to record, this assimilation, however, will not be divergent from the truth. At the age of eighteen, his lordship measured six feet four inches in height; and, being perfectly well proportioned, was considered as one of the finest figures in the naval service. His father and grandfather are both of them reported to have exceeded that height, enjoying at the same time every possible natural advantage of symmetry and just proportion.

Lord Duncan seemed also, from his ancestors, to belong to the sea. The family of Lundie, whence he sprung, and of which he was the representative, is of very high antiquity: it was originally styled Duncan of Sea-side; and the following well-authenticated heraldic tradition, relative to it, accounts particularly for its crest—*a dismasted ship*, now borne over the arms of Camperdown:—"A person belonging to the family, who lived about two hundred years since, having a son who was supercargo on board a vessel bound from Norway to his native place, Dundee, was overtaken by a tremendous storm, in which the ship was reduced almost to a complete wreck, and the crew experienced in consequence of that misfortune, the extremities of hardship and distress. Contrary, however, to all human expectation the crew were providentially enabled to navigate their crazy crippled vessel safe into port, and the parents of their fortunately rescued son, who, having considered him as lost to them, were in the most disconsolate desponding state, immediately adopted the crest alluded to, in commemoration of the

the dangers which their heir had escaped from, as well as in grateful acknowledgment to that Providence which had preserved him."*

On the establishment of the Presbyterian form of worship in Scotland, the family of Lundie immediately attached themselves to it; and, during the rebellion which broke out in 1745, the late Lundie, as the head of the family according to the custom of Scotland, was always called, and his lady, very eminently distinguished themselves by their loyalty and attachment to the House of Hanover. They have been equally steady in their adherence to their religious, as to their political principles.

Mr. (afterwards Lord) Duncan, the immediate subject of this memoir was born in the month of July, 1734, and received the first rudiments of education at Dundee. From his earliest infancy he was beloved

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* The following are the *Arms* borne by his lordship subsequent to the battle of Camperdown:—In the centre of his paternal coat (being Gules, two cinque foils in chief, and a bugle horn in base, stringed azure) pendant by a ribbon argent and azure, from a naval crown, or a gold medal, thereon two figures, the emblems of Victory and Britannia; Victory alighting on the prow of an antique vessel, crowning Britannia with a wreath of laurel; and below, the word, "CAMPERDOWN."——*Crest.* A first-rate ship of war, with masts broken, rigging torn and in disorder, floating on the sea, all proper; and over, the motto, "Disce pati."——*Supporters.* On the dexter side an angel, mantle purpure; on the head a celestial crown; the right hand supporting an anchor, proper; in the left a palm branch, or, on the sinister, a sailor, habited and armed, proper; his left hand supporting a staff, thereon hoisted a flag; the Dutch colors wreathed about the middle of the staff.——*Motto.* "Secundis dubiisque rectus.

and

and admired for that mildness and suavity of manners, by which he was distinguished throughout his life. It was, we believe, in the year 1746, or 1747, that he was placed under the command of Captain Robert Haldane, in the Shoreham frigate, where he remained about two or three years. In 1749, he was entered as a midshipman on board the Centurion, of 50 guns, a ship then ordered to be equipped to receive the broad pendant of Commodore Keppel, who was appointed commander-in-chief on the Mediterranean station, for the customary period of three years. Mr. Duncan continued under his command the whole of that time; and by his attention and vigilance, succeeded in obtaining the approbation and future friendship of the commodore.

The British government having determined to send out General Craddock, with a strong military force, to North America, Commodore Keppel was chosen to command the ships of war intended to convoy the transports. That officer, mindful of the merits of Mr. Duncan, so strongly recommended him to the Admiralty Board, that he was the first selected for promotion; and was immediately (on the 10th of January, 1755) advanced to the rank of lieutenant. It is said, that, when passing through Chatham on his way to London, where his qualifications were to be properly examined, the inhabitants were so much struck with his figure and appearance, that they came out of their houses and followed him as far as the eye could reach, as though they beheld some strange or unusual prodigy.

On his promotion, Mr. Duncan was appointed to the Norwich, a fourth-rate, commanded by Captain Barrington;

Barrington; but, after the arrival of the armament in Virginia, two of the Lieutenants on board of the commodore's ship, having been advanced to the rank of captains, Mr. Duncan had the pleasure of being removed into the Centurion, immediately under the eye of his friend and patron, the commodore. Mr. Duncan continued on board the Centurion till that ship returned to England. Commodore Keppel, after having, for a short time, commanded the Swiftsure, was appointed to the Torbay, of 74 guns, on the home station. Mr. Duncan was appointed second lieutenant of that ship; and after remaining for nearly three years, in the Channel service, he proceeded on the expedition sent against the French settlement of Goree, on the coast of Africa. He was slightly wounded at the attack of the fort, and soon afterwards rose to the rank of first lieutenant of the Torbay, in which capacity he returned to England.

On the 21st of September, 1759, he was made commander; and, on the 25th of February, 1761, he was advanced to the rank of post-captain, in the Valiant, of 74 guns. In this ship he again became materially connected, in respect to service, with his friend Keppel, who was ordered to hoist his broad pendant on board, as commander-in-chief of an expedition against the French island of Belleisle. The reduction of the citadel of Palais, and the general success of this undertaking, operated as an encouragement and incentive to the equipment of a more formidable armament which was shortly afterwards sent to attack the town of the Havannah, the most important of the Spanish settlements in the West Indies. Thither also Captain Duncan repaired with Mr. Keppel in the same ship. He

He was there invested with the command of the boats for disembarking the troops; and afterwards highly distinguished himself during the siege. When the town surrendered, he was dispatched with a proper force to take possession of the Spanish ships which had fallen, on that occasion, into the hands of the victors. The Spanish commander is said to have particularly exerted himself to save such ships of the line, as were on the stocks, and a quantity of materials which had been collected for the construction of two or three frigates. This occasioned considerable discussion and delay; when Captain Duncan, being informed of the motive of contention, which prevented the absolute cessation of arms, privately took a few persons on whom he could depend, and put an end to the controversy, by setting fire to the cause of it. This act was much approved by the besiegers in both departments of the service, as the most expeditious mode of settling a troublesome dispute: for obvious reasons, however, the affair was kept extremely quiet and it was known only to a very few persons, by what means this apparent accident so fortunately and critically happened.

Captain Duncan, after the surrender of the Havannah, accompanied Mr. Keppel, to the Jamaica station, where he remained till the conclusion of the war. He then returned to England and continued unemployed till the re-commencement o: the war with France, and was appointed to the Suffolk, of 74 guns. After a very short continuance in that ship, he removed into the Mona ch, of the samerate.

Captain Duncan afterwards sat as member on the different courts-martial, holden on his friend Admiral Keppel,

Keppel, and Sir Hugh Paliser; and, though the avowed friend of the former, he conducted himself so as not to incur the slightest censure from the partizans of the latter.

The Monarch, during the summer of 1779, was uninterruptedly employed in the Channel Fleet, commanded by Sir Charles Hardy; but, at the conclusion of the year, she was put under the orders of Sir George Bridges Rodney, who was instructed to force his way to Gibraltar, through all impediments, and relieve that fortress, which was then closely besieged by a Spanish army on the land side, and blockaded by a flotilla from the sea, sufficiently strong to oppose the entrance of any trivial succour. The period was now approaching, in which fame intended to be propitious to our hero. On the 16th of January, 1780, the British fleet being off Cape St. Vincent, fell in with a Spanish squadron, commanded by Don Juan de Langara, who was purposely stationed there to intercept Sir George, who, according to misinformation received by the Court of Spain, was supposed to be on his passage towards the besieged fortress, with a squadron consisting of no more than four ships of the line, having a fleet of victuallers and transports under their protection. The Monarch had not the advantage which many other ships in the same armament enjoyed, of being sheathed with copper; but notwithstanding this inconvenience added to the additional circumstance of her being rather foul, and, when in her best trim by no means remarkable as a swift sailer, Captain Duncan, had the good fortune to get into action before any other ship in the fleet. The superiority of force, which the British possessed over the enemy was sufficient to determine

the result of the action, but though, on the part of the whole, victory could scarcely be doubtful, there might be instances of individual danger and exertion; during such a contest, than which none could be more perilous or more glorious to the persons concerned. In such a situation was Captain Duncan. Notwithstanding the disadvantage under which his ship labored, she was pressed a-head of the fleet, under all the sail that could with propriety be set upon her; and, when Captain Duncan was warned by some coppered ships which he passed, of the danger which he incurred, by dashing so hastily amidst three of the enemy's squadron, which were just a-head, without some support, he replied, with the utmost coolness:—*I wish to be among them.* He soon had his wishes complied with, by finding himself alongside of one of the Spanish ships of equal force with the Monarch, though of much larger dimensions, while two others of the same rate and magnitude lay within musket shot, to the leeward of him. An action immediately commenced; and, after it had been very spiritedly kept up on both sides for some time, it was observed that the fire from the leeward ships had totally ceased. Captain Duncan, now perceived that those antagonists had made all the sail they could, leaving their windward companion to make the best defence in his power. He accordingly directed his efforts against the opponents that continued near him; and, after a short, though animated resistance, he had the satisfaction of seeing the colors of San Augustin, of 70 guns, struck, in token of her submission to the Monarch.

It is a circumstance not unworthy of notice, that three ships bearing the flags of as many Admirals in the

the Dutch service, have, at different times, surrendered to this very ship:—Admiral Purl, in the Mars, of 60 guns, in the West Indies, in the month of February 1781; Admiral Lucas, in the Dortrecht, of 64 guns, taken in Saldanha Bay, August the 17th, 1796; and Admiral Reintjies, in the Jupiter, of 74 guns, on the 11th of October, 1797.

Captain Duncan, notwithstanding his bravery and success, was unable to avail himself, to the full extent of his victory.

The rigging of the Monarch being much damaged, it was impossible for him to hoist out a boat for the purpose of boarding his prize; particularly, as it blew hard and the whole fleet was on a lee-shore. He was therefore compelled to resign the honor of taking possession of the vanquished enemy to a fresh ship which was then coming up astern. The fate of the San Augustin was singular, and must have been extremely mortifying to the conqueror. He was found so much disabled, that it was judged necessary to take her in tow; but on collecting the squadron, with the prizes, preparatory to the entrance of the fleet into the straits of Gibraltar, it was found that the only trophy of victory to which Captain Duncan, though he had afterwards engaged many other ships in the fleet, could claim an exclusive right, was through necessity, as it was said, abandoned, after taking out the few British officers and seamen, who had been put on board her. In consequence of this, the original crew, repossessing themselves of their ship, restored her to their country; and having navigated her in safety to Cadiz, she, having been refitted there, was dispatched on the twenty-

eighth of April, to the West Indies, as one of the squadron ordered thither under Don Solano.

Captain Duncan, instead of making an ostentatious display of his conduct on this occasion, preserved a constant silence on the subject.

The Monarca, and the St. Julian, the two other ships with which Captain Duncan had been engaged, were observed, in their retreat, by the late Captain Pownall, in the Apollo frigate. That brave and excellent officer determined to make the best use in his power of that advantage which the swift sailing of the Apollo gave him over a more unweildy adversary. He accordingly made sail, and having got up with the Monarca, posted himself at a proper distance, on the bow of the enemy, upon whom he opened a heavy and galling fire. The cannonade which he kept up, was not only extremely injurious to his antagonist, but served as a mark to lead Sir George Rodney himself, in the Sandwich, to his assistance, when a single broadside from that ship produced the immediate surrender of the Monarca.——The St. Julian was followed by the Prince George, to which ship she struck, after an impotent and unavailing resistance, of very short continuance; but was afterwards unfortunately obliged, for the sake of preserving the lives of the people on board, to run into Cadiz, which she reached in distress, and without a single mast standing.

To conclude the account of this action, to the success of which, Captain Duncan so materially contributed, it is requisite to state, that, of eleven ships of the line and two frigates, composing the armament, the Phœnix, of 80 guns, and the Diligente, Princessa, and Monarca, of 70 guns, were taken, and remained

n the possession of the English; the San Domingo, of 70 guns, was blown up; the San Eugenie, the San Augustin, and the St. Julian, of 70 guns, surrendered, but afterwards were fortunate enough to get away much damaged; the San Justo, was reduced almost to a wreck, but contrived to make her escape; and the San Cenaro and San Lorenzo, of 70 guns, the two which remained together with the frigates, Santa Gertrudi, and Santa Rosalia, of 20 guns each, fled, at the first onset, almost without attempting to make any resistance. The Monarch, it should be observed, was very considerably damaged having lost her fore-top-mast, and had 29 men killed or wounded.

Captain Duncan quitted the Monarch, not long after his return to England, in the ensuing spring, and received no other commission until the beginning of the year 1782, when he was appointed to the Blenheim, of 90 guns. In this ship he continued during the war, being constantly attached to the main or channel fleet, at that time commanded by Lord Viscount Howe, and of course proceeded with his lordship to Gibraltar in the month of September; being stationed to lead the larboard division of the centre, or commander-in-chief's squadron. In the skirmish which took place with the combined fleets, in the month of October, the Blenheim, though materially engaged, had the good fortune to escape with no greater loss than two men killed and three wounded.

Soon after the fleet arrived in England, Captain Duncan was appointed to the Foudroyant, of 84 guns, then one of the most favorite ships in the British navy, having, during the whole preceding part of the war, been commanded by Sir John Jervis, (now Earl St. Vincent.)

Vincent). He continued in that ship till the cessation of hostilities, in the spring of 1783, when he removed into the Edgar, of 74 guns, one of the guard-ships at Portsmouth, where he remained for three years. This was the last commission which he held as a private captain, and, though the appointment was not such as could flatter his ambition, it afforded him the means of training, and bringing forward a number of young gentlemen, who have since distinguished themselves very highly, both in the royal navy and in the East India service.

On the 14th of September, 1787, our officer was advanced to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the Blue; of the White, on the 22d of September, 1790; to be Vice of the Blue, on the 1st of February, 1793; to the same rank in the White squadron, on the 12th of April, 1794; and to be Admiral of the Blue on the 1st of June 1795.

Singular as it may appear, during all the foregoing periods, excepting the last, the admiral held no command. In the month of February, 1795, he received an appointment, constituting him commander-in-chief of the squadron stationed in the North Sea, which was particularly intended to act against the Dutch, who had collected a considerable naval force, then lying ready for service in the Texel. He accordingly hoisted his flag on board the Prince George, of 98 guns, at Chatham, but that ship being considered too large for the proposed service, he soon afterwards removed into the Venerable of 74 guns, and proceeded to the appointed station.

For the first two years of his command, nothing material took place beyond the ordinary routine of service.

His

His diligence, however, was obvious. The Dutch trade was almost annihilated; their merchant vessels captured in sight of their own ports; and the whole coast so completely blockaded, that very few vessels ventured to sea, without falling a prey to the British fleet or its out-cruizers. A striking proof of this assertion took place in the month of October, 1798:—two Dutch frigates the Furie, of 36 guns, with troops on board, had been lying in the Texel for several weeks, waiting the first possible opportunity of pushing out, to carry into execution some petty desultory expedition against the British coast. Favored, at length, by a preceding gale of wind, which they flattered themselves, had blown the British cruizers over to their own coast, and covered from discovery by a thick fog, they ventured out on the 23d of October, but were captured by Captain King, in the Sirius, of 36 guns, on the following day.—The fleet belonging to the United Provinces, though consisting of fifteen ships of the line, six frigates, and five sloops of war, was obliged to content itself with remaining quietly in port, or in taking short inoffensive cruizes, at times, when the want of water or provisions compelled the British ships to repair for a few days to their own coasts.

Among the captures made by Admiral Duncan's squadron, during the early part of his command, exclusively of trading vessels and others of inferior consequence, may be reckoned that of the Dutch commodore, Vander Hin, the Argol, of 32 guns; the Mercury, of 16 guns; the Echo, of 18 guns; and De Gier, of 14 guns; the Victorieuse, Suffisante, and the Pandora, French national brigs; and the Jalouse corvette, of 18 guns.

In the year 1796, in consequence of an arrangement with the Empress Catherine of Russia, a formidable Russian squadron arrived in the Downs, with instructions that its admiral should put himself entirely under the orders of the British commander-in-chief, in the same quarter. In consequence of the satisfactory manner in which Admiral Duncan acquitted himself in this delicate situation, the Empress Catherine, unsolicited, thought proper to honor him with the Imperial Order of Alexander Newski, the second in point of rank, among the degrees of Russian knighthood.

In the month of May, 1797, when the disgraceful mutiny among our seamen raged in the Channel fleet, at Portsmouth, it for some time also spread its deleterious contagion through the ships employed under the orders of Lord Duncan. As an officer bearing command, no person had ever more endeared himself to those whom he was appointed to conduct, than Admiral Duncan, for, while benevolence and good-humor had acquired him the universal love of all who knew him, a regularity of discipline unalloyed by severity, had rendered him revered as well as adored.

On the instant that the mutiny made its appearance, he visited every ship in the fleet; when, for a time, ashamed of their conduct, the culprits returned to their duty without any apparent reluctance. The check, however, was only a temporary one; for, when the fleet put to sea, the disease renewed its appearance, attended by all its former virulent symptoms; the Venerable and Adamant appearing the only ships that were not thoroughly tainted with the infection. On the evening before the Admiral himself intended to put to sea, he made the signal for the Trent

frigate

frigate to get under weigh: his commands were not complied with, and on enquiring the cause, it was found that the crew peremptorily refused to obey their officers. On this alarming occasion, the Admiral ordered all hands to be called upon deck; he publicly made known to them the delinquency of their companions: he informed them of his intention to go alongside of the frigate early in the ensuing morning, and compel the rebellious crew to return to their duty. *Who is there*, said he, *that on this occasion will desert me?*— This question received an universal negative: his people, with one accord, declared their abhorrence of such conduct, and their assurance of support, to the utmost of their power, in the punishment of it. In the course of the evening, however, a letter couched in the properest terms possible, was transmitted to him from his ship's company; they offered, by way of satisfying the discontent which pervaded the crew of the Trent, and shewing them, they fared no worse than all others embarked in the same cause, to deliver up the weights and measures used by the purser, (Mr. Hore, whose honor and character could not possibly receive any greater panegyric than they did, from the unforced and natural conduct of the Venerable's people on this occasion) in the allotment of their provisions, and depend entirely on his justice and candour, as far as regarded their own allowances. This afterwards convinced the mutineers of the impropriety of their conduct, and the effusion of British blood, by the hands of Britons, was happily prevented; for before the ensuing morning, the frigate proceeded on the service, as ordered by her commander-in-chief.

Unfortunately

Unfortunately for the credit of the British navy, the disease of mutiny had not yet terminated; for when, towards the end of May, Admiral Duncan quitted Yarmouth Roads, to cruize off those sands, which at some distance environed that anchorage, till he should be reinforced, the Nassau and Montague refused to put to sea, under pretence that they were in the course of payment, though at that time scarcely ten shillings were due to each man on board. This sad example induced the rest of the ships to pursue the same line of conduct; so that the Venerable and Adamant, whose crews, as before observed, never relaxed from their duty, were left to proceed by themselves off the Texel, whither the admiral, unattended as he was, immediately repaired. Stratagem supplied, on this occasion, the place of numbers; for the admiral by making a variety of signals as to ships in the offing, effectually duped Admiral De Winter, as he himself afterwards confessed, into a belief that the channel of the Helder was blocked up by a force superior to that which he himself commanded. At this very critical period, the first symptom of mutiny that ever was observed on board the Venerable, made its appearance; and a plot was actually on foot, and was happily discovered by some valuable men belonging to the gunner's crew. The admiral ordered all hands upon deck, and addressed them in the firmest, and at the same time in the coolest terms; in a few minutes six of the ringleaders were brought before him. It was at that time impossible to say what height the mutiny had reached: the moment was more than critical; it was awful; and, while the delay of an instant might have rendered it fatal, a strong measure too hastily taken might

might have been equally injurious to the cause of tranquillity.—" My lads," said the Admiral, " I am not in the smallest degree, apprehensive of any violent measure you may have in contemplation; and though I assure you I would much rather acquire your love than incur your fear, I will, with my own hand, put to death the first man who shall presume to display the slightest symptom of rebellion." Turning round immediately to one of the mutineers—— " Do you, Sir," said he, " want to take the command of this ship out of my hands ?"—" Yes, Sir," replied the fellow in the most audacious manner. The admiral immediately raised his arm, with an intent to plunge the sword into the mutineer's breast ; but he was prevented by the chaplain and secretary, who seized his arm from executing this summary act of justice. The blow being prevented, the Admiral attempted not to make a second, but immediately called to the ship's company with some agitation :—" Let those who will stand by me and my officers, pass over immediately to the starboard side of the ship, that we may see who are our friends and who are our opponents." In an instant the whole crew, except the six ringleaders of the disturbance, ran over with one accord. The culprits were immediately seized, put in irons, and committed to the gun-room, from whence they were afterwards liberated one by one, after having shewn signs of real penitence, which induced the admiral by well-timed acts of lenity, to endear himself, if possible still more to a faithful crew, who, in the midst of tumult, had stood faithful to their trust, uncorrupted in the very focus of seditious seduction ; and, except in the instance, already

ready related, not the smallest symptom of discontent ever appeared on board the Venerable.

In the succeeding month (June, 1797) the Dutch patiently suffered themselves to be blocked up by Admiral Duncan. At length, wearied by the representations and remonstrances of his own government, urged by the influence of the French faction in Holland, and encouraged by the temporary retirement of Admiral Duncan into Yarmouth Road, Admiral De Winter, the Dutch admiral-in-chief, was, as it were, compelled to prepare for sea with his whole force. He was a man possessing the highest gallantry, a perfect knowledge in his profession, and, in short, every quality necessary to a person entrusted with a high command. Cool deliberate reflection, added to a consciousness of superiority which his British antagonists possessed over those he commanded, as well in discipline as in other points, would probably have induced him to persevere in the defensive cautious measures, by which he had so long kept the British fleet employed without injury to his own force. The evil genius, however, which influenced the Dutch councils, predominated, and the fleet sailed early in the month of October. Admiral Duncan, who had accurate information of the enemy's motions, immediately took the necessary steps to prevent their returning to the Texel, without coming to an engagement, which he well knew they would attempt, on finding that he had put to sea.

On the 11th of the month, at nine o'clock in the morning, the headmost squadron made a signal of having discovered the enemy; and, after a pursuit of three hours, the British fleet succeeded in getting between the Dutch fleet and the land. Between twelve

and

and one o'clock the action commenced, and ended soon after three in the total defeat of the enemy, who lost their admiral, vice-admiral and seven other ships of the line; the remainder with great difficulty made their escape.

The laconic manner in which the gallant admiral first announced this brilliant success to the Admiralty Board, has been justly considered as resembling the celebrated letter of Captain Watson, written in consequence of his having attacked, taken, or destroyed a detachment of the Spanish fleet, off Syracuse. "We have taken," said that officer, "and destroyed all the Spanish ships and vessels that were upon the coast; the number as per margin. Yours, &c. G. Watson." It is a curious fact, that from haste, or inadvertence, neither the names nor the number of the ships, were at all noticed in the margin.—Admiral Duncan's official letter was as follows:—

"*Venerable, off the Coast of Holland, the 12th of October, by log (11th) three P. M. Camperdown, E. S. E. eight miles. Wind N. by E.*

"SIR,

"I have the pleasure to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that at nine o'clock this morning I got sight of the Dutch fleet: at half past twelve I passed through their line, and the action commenced, which has been very severe. The admiral's ship is dismasted, and has struck, as have several others, and one on fire. I shall send Captain Fairfax with particulars the moment I can spare him. I am, &c.

"ADAM DUNCAN."

As a public and proper reward for his brave and spirited conduct, in the achievement of this victory, the admiral was raised, by patent, dated October 30, 1797, to the dignity of Baron and Viscount of Great Britain, by the titles of Baron Camperdown and Viscount Duncan. On the 14th of February, 1799, he was also made an Admiral of the White Squadron.

The Venerable had received so much damage in the action of Camperdown, and had become so leaky, owing to the number of shot which she had received in her hull, that she was, with the greatest difficulty, brought into port; and, being found unfit for further service, without previously undergoing a thorough repair, was of course ordered to be dismasted for that purpose. His lordship, in consequence of this, shifted his flag into the Kent, a new ship of 74 guns, then just launched.

Lord Duncan retained the command of the North Sea squadron till the commencement of the year 1800; but the extreme caution of the enemy, prevented him from acquiring any fresh laurels at the expence of the Dutch maritime power.

From the above period, to that of his death, which took place at Cornhill on his way to Edinburgh, on the 4th of August, 1804, his lordship enjoyed the sweets of retirement, the delightful retrospect of a life spent in the service of a grateful country, the *otium cum dignitate* in the fullest force of the expression.

We have only to add, that Lord Duncan was married on the 6th of June, 1777, to Miss Dundas, daughter of Robert Dundas, Esq. Lord President of the Court of Session in Scotland. Ten years after, on the 23d of December, 1787, his eldest son, Henry Duncan,

can, died at Edinburgh. When his Lordship died, he was succeeded in his titles by his eldest surviving son, the Honorable Robert Duncan, a captain in the Ayreshire regiment of militia.

As a brave officer, as a pious man, and as a true patriot, Lord Duncan's loss will be long and deeply regretted. The following admirable lines of Shakespeare have been applied to many heroes; but of few perhaps could they be considered as a more accurate description, than of Lord Duncan, in his prime of manhood:—

> See what grace was seated on this brow!
> Hyperion's curls, the front of Jove himself;
> An eye like Mars, to threaten or command;
> A station like the herald Mercury,
> New lighted on a Heaven-kissing hill,
> A combination and a form indeed,
> Where every God did seem to set his seal,
> To give the world assurance of a Man.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, Esq.

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THIS gentleman, whose recent conduct has been so decidedly hostile to this country, was born and educated in the American province of Virginia, and is now, we believe, nearly sixty years of age. His father also belonged to that state, and was joint commissioner with Colonel Fry, for settling and extending the boundary-line between Virginia and North Carolina, in the year 1749.

Mr. Jefferson, though born to an affluent fortune, was bred to the law. His education, however, embraced drawing, geometry, geography, astronomy, natural philosophy, and music, in most of which, he was considered to be a proficient. Literature in general, but particularly history and politics, also received much of his attention.

His genius and talents were proportionate to his education; and, in consequence of political attachments, he had but little of either time or inclination to display his eloquence at the bar. He was called into public life at a very early period, and became a distinguished member in the legislature of Virginia. During that epoch of perturbation which severed the colonial settlements of America from their mother country, he was much in the confidence of the insurgents, and sat two years in the famous Congress which

brought

brought about the revolution. A proof of the blind confidence which his constituents reposed in him, is evident from the following passage in one of their addresses on appointing him their representative:——"You assert that there is a fixed intention to invade our rights and privileges; we own that we do not see this clearly, but since you assure us that it is so, we believe the fact. We are about to take a very dangerous step, but we confide in you, and are ready to support you in every measure you shall think proper to adopt."——It would be unjust, perhaps, in this place, to withhold the following eulogistic flight of the Duke de Liancourt; requesting the reader, however, to make due allowance for the political principles of its author:——"They must be very ignorant of the history of America, who know not that Mr. Jefferson shared with George Washington, Franklin, John Adams, Mr. Jay, and a few others, the toils and dangers of the revolution in all its different stages; that in the famous Congress which guided and consolidated it, he displayed a boldness and firmness of character, a fund of talents and knowledge, and a steadiness of principles, which will hand his name to posterity with glory, and assure to him for ever, the respect and gratitude of all the friends of liberty. It was he, who, in the famous Congress, so respectable and so admired, in that Congress, ever inaccessible to the seduction, fear, and apparent weakness of the people, who, jointly with Mr. Lee, another deputy of Virginia, proposed the declaration of independence. It was he who, supported principally by John Adams, pressed the deliberation on the subject, and carried it, bearing down the wary prudence of some of his colleagues, possessed of an equal share of patriotism, but of less courage. It was

was he who was charged with drawing up the master-piece of dignified wisdom and patriotic pride. It was he who, being afterwards appointed governor of Virginia, at the period of the invasion of Arnold and Cornwallis, acquired a peculiar claim on the gratitude of his fellow-citizens. It was he who, as the first ambassador of the United States in France, filled at that momentous epocha, that distinguished post to the satisfaction of both nations. In fine, it was he, who, as secretary of state, in 1792, when the ridiculous and disorganizing pretensions of Mr. Genet, and the lofty arrogance of the * * * * * * minister, endeavoring alternately to abuse the political weakness of the United States, induced his government to speak a noble and independant language, which would have done credit to the most formidable power. The long correspondence carried on with these two designing agents, would, from its just, profound, and able reasoning, be alone sufficient to confer on its author the reputation of an accomplished statesman."

At the period of Mr. Jefferson's government of Virginia, alluded to above, he was not only the object of an open enemy in the field, but had to sustain the assassin attacks of a domestic faction. It was even alledged against him, that he abandoned the government to its enemies; that he sought personal safety by a flight to the mountains; and that during his administration he refused to liquidate military claims in preference to those of the civil list. The fact, however, is, that the government deserted Mr. Jefferson, not that Mr. Jefferson deserted the government. On the part of Mr. Jefferson, it is contended by his friends, that, as the credit of the government was sunk, its strength exhausted by the march-

ing and counter-marching of its troops, and its contingent fund at a very low ebb, the support of the civil department was aprimary object, particularly as the civil list contained but a small number of individuals, and the military roll a very large one. Indeed, from the general liberality and benevolence of Mr. Jefferson's disposition, there is every reason to suppose, that, had it been in his power, it would have afforded him the highest satisfaction, to answer every demand that was made on the government. The military also had a resourse beyond the immediate power of the civil authority; as their arms and the laws of war empowered them to take needful supplies from those to whom Providence had been most bountiful.

Mr. Jefferson, as early as the year 1774, had appeared in print, as the author of *A Summary View of the Rights of British America*; in which he strenuously asserted those claims that were resisted by the English government.

About the same time, amidst his numerous official functions, Mr. Jefferson was called upon by a foreigner of distinction, at the instigation of the late king of France, to furnish certain notes upon the state of Virginia. These notes, however, were not written until the year 1781, when he officiated as governor of that province. They were not originally intended for the press, but have since found their way into print. In the appendix to the notes, drawn up at the termination of the war in 1783, (when it was expected that the people of Virginia would nominate a convention, for the purpose of establishing the essential spirit of their rights, by the formation of a radical law,) is an interesting draught of what Mr. Jefferson proposed as a fundamental

fundamental constitution. Of this important paper, the following may be received as an accurate analysis:—He opens the plan of this constitution with a declaration to the world of the nature of the war, and of other pre-existing circumstances which had rendered the proposed measure necessary. He proposes that a convention should be invited by the voluntary resolution of the legislature; and, of course, deduces the dependence and submission of the law-giving power to its origin, *the people*. From this constitutional convention of the community, he delegates the departments of jurisprudence to a legislative, judicial, and executive authority; and he balances the whole very nicely in equilibrio. He divides the legislature into two houses, and renders their concurrence an essential of their laws. He proposes that the election should be annual. He adjusts the equality of election by disproportioning the county representatives to the num- of the electors, and by limiting the number of delegates of which that house shall consist. His senatorial division consists of districts and classes. He establishes the method of voting *viva voce*, and gives the right of suffrage to all who are enrolled in the militia. He regulates and confines the time and manner of legislative meeting and adjournment; and giving to the governor a power of convening them, admits a latitude in the case of infection or invasion, which may render a temporary removal expedient. A majority of either house forms its quorum. He allows the members no *privilege* whatever beyond personal protection while they are engaged on public business; and, (what may seem extraordinary in England,) he makes the market price of *wheat* the medium of their wages, thereby, (it is apprehended,)

prehended,) stimulating an attention to agriculture, while he dispenses the medium of equity. Ultimately, he pays a due and scrupulous attention to the doctrines of *exclusion*, *vacancies*, and *limits of power*.

Mr. Jefferson, in his draught of a constitution, paid equal attention to the executive governor, to the council of state, and to its president, and to the judiciary department. He also proposed a council of revision, to consist of members from the two respective departments of the executive and judicial; to which council he proposed the submission of all bills, which might have passed the legislature, before they ultimately became a law. The object of this council was, to prevent the legislative wisdom of the country from being surprized into the act of a party. In the appointments of delegates to Congress, Mr. Jefferson left the election in the hands of the state legislature, but was careful to exclude the members of the executive power from either voice or seat. He particularly guarded the writ of HABEAS CORPUS as the right of every man, ten days to be the longest possible stretch of imprisonment after the demand of such writ. He took due care to subject the military authority to the civil power; printing-presses to be responsible only for the propagation of falsehood; and constitutional conventions to be called whenever they might be thought needful by two out of the three branches of government. Such is an outline of the plan suggested by Mr. Jefferson.

In the year 1782-3, Mr. Jefferson was in Congress, whence he was appointed as ambassador to the court of Spain; but the approach of peace rendered his intended voyage unnecessary. In 1784, he was still in or at Congress, at Annapolis, in Maryland; in March, 1786,

1786, he was in England; and, shortly afterwards, at the court of Versailles, whence he communicated his negociations concerning the freedom of the tobacco-trade, the powerful opposition of the farmer-general, &c. to Mr. Jay, minister of foreign affairs at New York. His letter, on these subjects, having gained the approbation of M. de Vergennes, and the acquiescence of M. de Calonne, was regarded as displaying considerable diplomatic talents. He also recommended to the people of Carolina, an improvement in preparing their staple commodity, rice, in order to lead the Mediterranean market.

On the 22d of October, in the same year, (1786) M. de Calonne announced to Mr. Jefferson, by letter, from Fontainbleau, the intention of the king of France, to favor the commerce of the United States as much as possible; to double the number of their free-ports; to reduce the duties that were prejudicial to the commerce with America, that after the expiration of a contract made by the farmers-general with Mr. Morris (concerning tobacco) no similar one should be permitted; and that, during the existence of the term of Mr. M's contract, the farmers-general should be compelled to purchase annually about fifteen thousand hogsheads of American tobacco: this regulation of the tobacco-trade, (though not wholly in conformity to the principles proposed by Mr. Jefferson, in his letter to the Count de Vergennes) appears to be the result of Mr. Jefferson's negociation, which had it at first in view to eradicate that monopoly entirely.——Mr. Jefferson was equally successful in obtaining many other advantages to the commerce of the United States.

Mr.

Mr. Jefferson remained in France until the year 1789, when he returned to America, and was appointed secretary of state to the federal government. In this capacity, he was of course called upon to perform many arduous duties of office; and, in whatsoever he undertook, he succeeded to the public satisfaction. At the period when Mr. Hammond, the ambassador of the king of England, first became a resident at the court of America; and when Genet, the citizen minister of the French Republic, assailed the firmness of the neutral principles, the burden of the day fell on the shoulders of Mr. Jefferson. The rulers of France had at that time employed their chosen corps in arming American citizens, in disorganizing the government of the United States, and in endeavoring to involve them in the war; Mr. Jefferson's task was therefore a truly arduous one; and though, in the voluminous correspondence which took place between the respective governments, he has been accused of an unwarrantable predilection for the French party, we do not perceive that such a charge is well founded. Mr. Jefferson, indeed, is always known to have given a decided preference to the French over the English; but in the present instance, he appears to have acted with as strict an impartiality as the nature of the case would admit.

In the month of December, 1793, Mr. Jefferson, in his official capacity, presented an extensive report of the history, nature, privileges, and restrictions of American commerce, down to the summer of 1792. This, which exhibited a fund of most interesting information was very ably executed by Mr. Jefferson; who, with much felicity of condensation, comprehended a summary of the whole in the space of twenty pages. In that sum-

summary he gave the most satisfactory statements of the trade with Great Britain, with France, Spain, Portugal, Denmark, Sweden, and the United Netherlands, comprehending their respective privileges and restrictions, with a perspicuous *coup d'œil* of inconveniences and remedies.

Mr. Jefferson, shortly after his presentation of this report, sought a short interval of repose by retiring to his seat at Monticello, in Virginia. It is said that, in addition to the ties of parental care, and the claims of domestic happiness, he was somewhat induced to this derelictory measure by the persuasion of a decided party overbalancing his opinions, in the presidential decisions. Immediately after this step, he was considered by the ruling party, as the leader of opposition; he was suspected of revolutionary views; he was accused of an intention to overturn the constitution of the United States; of being the enemy of his country; and of a wish to become a tribune of the people. Mr. Jefferson was, indeed, the declared enemy of every new system, the introduction of which might be attempted; being clearly of opinion, that the existing constitution should be carefully preserved and defended against all infringments arising from the stretch of executive power. But, notwithstanding Mr. Jefferson's opposition to the political principles of the late president, General Washington, he has often been heard to speak with great respect of his virtues, and in terms of esteem of his sound and unerring judgment. It should be recollected, that the spirit of party is carried to a violent excess in America; and that, in all probability, those who embrace the opinions of Mr.

Jefferson,

Jefferson, attack their opponents with imputations equally unfounded.

The retirement of Mr. Jefferson was but short; for, called upon by the public voice, he assumed the office and functions of vice-president of the United States. With the exception of those bickerings which frequently occur in most political bodies, the duties of this station were fulfilled by Mr. Jefferson, with a tolerable portion of ease and tranquillity to himself.

Since the death of the illustrious Washington, he has been invested with the honors of the presidential chair; and, in his annual addresses, or reports, to Congress, he has evinced the most sedulous attention to what he conceives to be the genuine interests of his country. His party, *alias* that of the French, is now more powerful than ever. For many years, indeed, more or less, ever since the period of American independence, the French have been most unremittingly active in disseminating their revolutionary principles; and, as Mr. Jefferson is known to be a greater enemy of a kingly form of government than of any other, it is not very surprizing, that his attachments should lean towards the interests of France, rather than to those of England. That this will be ultimately beneficial to America, is a position, however, which, we believe, will not be defended by the soundest politicians. It is mutually for the benefit of Great Britain and France that they should remain at peace; but it is the height of folly and absurdity in America to place herself in a hostile attitude against England. War, indeed, would be but in a slight degree noxious to the commerce of Britain; while its consequences would be ruinous to America, and such as her citizens would not,

not, even for a brief period, be brought patiently to endure. The chief subject of dispute with America, at present, is colonial produce, and colonial supplies. America, at this moment, is prevented from importing British goods, whether colonial or European, into Hamburgh; not because such is the will of the lawful government of that city, but because it is the mandate of Buonaparte, and to this she tamely submits, as she does to every insult from France, without a murmur. What right would America have to complain if we were to forbid her to carry French, Dutch, or Spanish goods, to any other sea-ports in Europe? "It is somewhat remarkable," says a contemporary writer, "that at the time when the United States of America are claiming a free intercourse with the colonies of our enemy and a right to carry the produce of those colonies, by a circuitous voyage to every part of the world, which would be immediately injurious to our West Indian islands, by lessening the demand for *their* produce in every part of Europe; an effect which has already followed, from the indulgences granted to neutrals, and from their abuse of them;—that the United States, contrary to the principles of the law of nations, claim a privilege, which cannot be admitted, unless we abandon our just and most important rights, as a maritime and belligerent power, and are willing by such admission, to enable an inveterate enemy to protract the present war, while we deprive ourselves of the most effectual means of distressing him; at this very time, the West Indian planters and merchants unite their powerful interest, with *other* claims of America, to procure a suspension of the navigation laws, which would be immediately injurious to our own colonies in North America,

America, in exact proportion with the advantages it would confer upon the United States, and would ultimately lead to very ruinous effects upon the commercial interests of the kingdom."——There is, however, but little doubt, that, if a becoming firmness be adopted, and adhered to, in the course of our pending negociations with America, every thing may be settled upon amicable, and mutually honorable terms. It is not because Mr. Jefferson may conceive that such and such proceedings are alone right, that they are implicitly to be adhered to by the United States. "But if," says the writer already quoted, "war with America should be the result of firm adherence to our just rights; although no man of sense and feeling would fail to lament the necessity, it is manifest that, while we should be secure from any mischief, the first year of it, without adding a single ship to our present naval establishment, and without much additional expence, would more effectually embarrass the present tyrant of Europe, and scourge of the world, than five years of warfare with him, while he is allowed to keep up his connexion with his colonies, through the Americans. The ships of America would be swept from the ocean, as those of France, and Spain, and Holland, have already been, and those of Prussia soon will be. The trade between our enemies and their colonies would then be completely destroyed, which we have been unable to effect, while we have treated the Americans as friends. The emigrations to the United States, from the heart of our country, which have been so injurious to our strength, would be at an end. Thousands of our seamen, (who are now in American ships, and must not be taken out by our cruizers, without threats

of vengeance, accompanied by *offers of reward for murder*) would relinquish the honors of their *citizenship*, and give back *naturalization*, when they could no longer obtain protection or employment; they would return to their allegiance, and re-enter our navy. In addition to these advantages, it cannot be doubted that a war with the United States would greatly contribute to increase the population, and promote the improvement of our colonies, which border on them."

The "*offers of reward for murder*," alluded to above, proceeded from the unfortunate circumstance of an American seaman being killed by a shot from the Leander, a British frigate cruizing on the American station. The shot was fired for the purpose of bringing-to an American merchantman, in order that her papers might be examined, and that it might be ascertained whether there were any English seamen on board. The event, which, we are certain has been deeply deplored by the British nation, and by no one more than Captain Whitby, of the Leander, a man of distinguished humanity and honor, has excited an extraordinary ferment throughout the United States. Indeed, by the furious partizans of democracy and antigallican principles, at the head of which we are sorry to observe that Mr. Jefferson stands conspicuous, the melancholy accident has been most infamously seized upon as a pretext for every species of violence and outrage, against the subjects of his Britannic Majesty. From the conciliating conduct of our government, however, it may, we trust, be expected, that every difference of this nature will be amicably adjusted. Captain Whitby, it is said, has been ordered home for the purpose of having his conduct investigated by a court martial;

martial; but, from his known character, no doubt can be reasonably obtained of his having acted in strict conformity to his instructions.

Mr. Jefferson, as we have noticed in the early part of this memoir, is not without his attachments to the politer acquirements; and in the walks of elegant literature, he is not unqualified to make a respectable figure. While at Paris, in the year 1786, in a letter which he wrote to Dr. Stiles, President of Yale College, he suggested the new idea, that the people of Asia are descended from the American Indians. The ingenuity, accompanied by a fund of sentiment and information, with which he supported this conjecture, entitled him to high credit.

"In private life," says the Duke de Liancourt, "Mr. Jefferson displays a mild, easy, and obliging temper, though he is somewhat cold and reserved. His conversation is of the most agreeable kind, and he possesses a stock of information not inferior to that of any other man." He employs himself with activity and perseverance in the management of his farms and buildings; and he orders, directs, and pursues, in the minutest detail, every branch of business relating to them. The duke found him in the midst of harvest, from which the scorching heat of the sun does not prevent his attendance. "His negroes," says he, "are nourished, clothed, and treated as well as white servants could be. As he cannot expect any assistance from the two small neighboring towns, every article is made on his farm; his negroes are cabinet-makers, carpenters, masons, bricklayers, smiths, &c. The children he employs in a nail manufactory, which yields a considerable profit. The young and old negresses spin

spin for the clothing of the rest. He animates them by rewards and distinctions; in fine, his superior mind directs the management of his domestic concerns, with the same abilities, activity, and regularity, which he evinced in the conduct of public affairs, and which he is calculated to display in every situation of life."

Mr. Jefferson, we are informed, at an early age, married a mild and amiable wife, the daughter of a Mr. Wayles, an eminent counsellor in Virginia. This lady, one of the most affectionate of women, has long since passed that bourne, from which no traveller returns. In consequence of her death, a more weighty parental care devolved upon Mr. Jefferson, in the edu cation of two lovely daughters, who have been reare under his immediate inspection, and have accompanie him to every court to which he has had the honor c being sent as an ambassador. They are the solace c his declining age; and, when death shall press heavil upon his brow, their attention in all probability wi mitigate the last pangs of expiring nature.

MR. DANIEL LAMBERT.

OUR immortal bard, in delineating the character of Falstaff, has rendered the corpulent knight remarkable for wit and ingenuity, in direct contradiction to the prevalent opinion, that excessive bulkiness in the human form, is a general sign of weakness and stupidity. Notwithstanding the physical reasons assigned for this opinion, we have had and still have *living* instances that the mind is not always affected by a more than ordinary weight of body. Mr. Quin, who, some years ago, represented the above-mentioned character, was remarkably facetious though remarkably corpulent; and the present representative, Mr. Stephen Kemble, who requires no *stuffing* on the occasion, is another proof that *dulness* is not always the concomitant of *heaviness*. The subject of our present consideration, however, is a more extraordinary instance than any we have ever heard of, where an uncommon magnitude in the corporeal system appears united with a greater portion of intellectual capacity, than falls to the lot of many.

The rare qualities and endowments of mind which have raised Mr. Lambert to public notice, and by which he has acquired not only the acquaintance but patron-

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age of many distinguished personages, justly rank him as a public character, and being such, he is certainly entitled to a place among our collection. Had he only his immense corpulency to boast of we should then consider him as one of those prodigies, fit only for the pencil of the caricaturist, but being a man, whom the world may HEAR as well as *see*, the biographer's pen cannot be unworthily employed. Nor can the memoirs of such a man be unacceptable to readers in general. Those who have seen and conversed with him, must be gratified with being thus furnished with authentic particulars which could not be gathered from cursory conversation or repeated visits; and those who are strangers to him, will no doubt thank us for introducing them to such an extraordinary character.

Mr. Daniel Lambert was born in the parish of St. Margaret, at Leicester, March 13, 1770. Neither his parents, nor indeed any of his family, except an uncle and aunt on the father's side were remarkably corpulent. Besides Daniel, his father had another son, who died while young, and two daughters, who are still living, and are both women of common dimensions. Young Lambert lost his uncle, above-mentioned, during his infancy; he was game-keeper to the Earl of Stamford, to whose predecessor, Mr. Lambert senior had been huntsman in early life.

Young Lambert was entirely brought up under the eye of his parents, and when we consider the profession of his father and uncle and likewise observe that his maternal grandfather was a great cock-fighter, we cannot be surprized to find, that even in his childhood Daniel was encouraged in all the exercises and amusements comprehended under the title of field sports, as well

well as in racing, cocking, and fishing; being born and bred, as it were, among horses, dogs, cocks, &c. At the age of fourteen, he was placed with Mr. Benjamin Patrick, in the manufactory of Taylor, and Co. at Birmingham, then one of the most flourishing establishments in that opulent town, but which was demolished in the riots of 1795.

The revolutions which capricious fashion so often brings about too frequently deprive the industrious artizan of employment. Various articles, which were lately in vogue, after undergoing a variety of shapes, are now entirely disused:——

"Why large buckles, why the small,
Why no buckles now at all?
If the matter right I take,
Alamode—for Fashion's sake."

The public taste having also proscribed buttons as well as buckles, young Lambert, who had then served only four years of his apprenticeship, was obliged to return to his father, who at this time held the situation of keeper of the prison in Leicester. On his father's resigning this office, young Lambert succeeded to the situation; the elder Lambert died about five years afterwards, and the son continued to be keeper of the prison till Easter 1805. It was within a year after he entered into this office that his corpulence, which first made its appearance at the age of nineteen, rapidly increased. In his juvenile days, there were no indications whatever of that immense weight of body, by which he is now distinguished. He always possessed considerable strength, and before he was of age, could lift articles of great burthen, and even carry five hundred

dred weight with ease. He was by no means deficient in courage, of which, when about the age of nineteen, he gave the following remarkable proof:—

While a company of itinerant Savoyards were entertaining the mobility with their dancing dogs and bears, in Blue Boar Lane, in the parish of St. Nicholas, where Lambert then lived, a dog who belonged to the county goal, attacked with great fury their largest bear. The Savoyards, enraged at this untimely interruption, resolved to unmuzzle the bear in spite of Mr. Lambert's remonstrances; who, irritated at their obstinacy, snatched from one of them the pole or paddle with which they manage these animals, and, striking the bear with all his force, so stunned him, as gave the dog (now inadequate to the combat) an opportunity of extricating himself from the enemy. The weather being frosty, and the pavement consequently slippery, Lambert during this exploit, fell, but rose again with the utmost agility. By this time the unmuzzled bear was so close to him that his weapon was useless; whereupon he struck her with his left hand such a violent blow on the head, as felled her to the ground, and obliged her to decline any further contest. The Savoyards complained to the mayor of our hero and demanded redress: they were, however, told, that the inhabitants of that parish, (who have been for many years denominated *Nick's Ruffs*) were out of his jurisdiction, and consequently do just as they please.

While Mr. Lambert retained his situation as keeper of the prison, his humanity and benevolence, were always conspicuous. Notwithstanding the severity which he was obliged to exercise, yet the unhappy objects committed to his care, received his assistance

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on all occasions, and few ever left the prison without making grateful acknowledgments of his kindness. His removal from this situation, was in consequence of the magistrates' desire to employ the prisoners in the manufactures of the town. That his conduct, while he retained this situation, was highly satisfactory is evident, by an annual pension of fifty pounds, which they settled upon him without any solicitation whatever on his part, accompanied by a declaration that it was a mark of their esteem, and of the universal satisfaction which he had given during the appointment.

About the year 1793, Mr. Lambert weighed thirty-two stone: at this time he had occasion to visit Woolwich, and as the tide did not serve to bring him up to London, he walked from Woolwich to the metropolis less fatigued than many middle-sized man who had accompanied him. In 1805 he attained the enormous weight of fifty stone four pounds, his height being five feet eleven inches. Notwithstanding his corpulency, his breath is perfectly free; his respiration not being in the smallest degree obstructed, even in sleep. Instead of being lethargic as is generally the case, from an accumulation of substance, he exhibits an example of extraordinary wakefulness. He sleeps less than the generality of mankind, being never more than eight hours in bed. He never indulges himself with a nap after dinner, and such is the vivacity of his disposition, that he is the last person who retires to rest, which he never, or very seldom, does before one o'clock. He sleeps with only one pillow to raise his head, and always with the window open. He never snores, and what is very remarkable, always wakes within five minutes of any time he pleases. He like-

wise enjoys good health--has no oppression on the lungs—never knew what it was to be out of wind—is subject to no head-ach, or other ordinary complaint—can walk or go upstairs with ease to himself, and not only stoops at his desk without trouble to write, but even keeps up an extensive correspondence. In short, Dr. Heaviside declares that his life is as good as that of any other healthy man. His food differs in no respect from that of other people; he eats moderately, and only off one dish at a time. His drink is simple water, and though he has often been among convivial parties, yet he never could be prevailed upon to join in their Bacchanalian libations. Still he contributes to the mirth of a table, being a good singer; his voice a fine tenor, light, and unembarrassed, and the articulation perfectly clear.

Though Mr. Lambert lived exceedingly retired in Leicester, yet such was the curiosity of the people to see this *weighty* man, that the multitude of spectators, who were still devising means to gratify their wish, became exceedingly troublesome. Such were Mr. Lambert's feelings, that no longer than a year ago he abhorred the very idea of exhibiting himself. Perceiving, however, that he must either submit to be a close prisoner in his own house, or endure all the inconveniences without receiving any of the profits of an exhibition, he endeavored to overcome his punctilios and resolved on visiting the metropolis for that purpose. As he could find no carriage large enough to convey him there, he had a vehicle purposely constructed in which he visited London, for the twenty-second time, in the spring of 1806, and fixed his residence in Piccadilly. The dread he felt on his arrival, lest he should

should be exposed to insult and indignity from the curiosity of some of his visitors was soon removed by the politeness aud attention which he always experienced, Several unable to gratify their curiosity by one interview, have repeated their visits again and again, and with increased astonishment at the magnitude of such a human figure. Indeed it was humorously observed by a banker in the city, who had visited him above twenty times, that he had fairly had a pound's worth. Among the number of foreigners who anxiously witnessed this unequalled spectacle, was Count Borulowski, the celebrated Polish dwarf, who had acquired an ample fortune by exhibiting his own person. The great contrast between the diminutive count and Mr. Lambert, afforded high entertainment to the spectators, and it was observed that one of the latter's sleeves, would be sufficient cloth for a coat for the count. Indeed, Mr. Lambert's apartments had more the air of a place of fashionable resort, than of an exhibition; for, as long as the town continued full, he was visited by the best company.

Having thus far treated on the corporeal magnitude of Mr. Lambert, we shall now make a few observations on his mental talents. We have already intimated that he is a man of good understanding: being possessed of a retentive memory he proves himself a most entertaining companion, and has, on many occasions, given several specimens of real wit: we say *real*, not meaning the common wit of the day, which chiefly consists in miserable puns, but those smart replies which betoken a superior capacity, and which have so much distinguished Foote and the late Mr. Banister. A few specimens, we presume, will not be unac-

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ceptable to the readers, especially as their authenticity cannot be called in question.

A gentlemani from Nottingham, who was extremely desirous to see this extraordinary phenomenon, pretended that he had a particular favor to ask. Being admitted, he complimented him on his skill as a sportsman, and begged to know the pedigree of a certain mare. Mr. Lambert, comprehending the business of of his inquisitive visitor, replied, "she was got by *Impertinence* out of *Curiosity*."

On another occasion, a gentleman who was travelling through Leicester, and understanding that he was a great cocker, was extremely importunate to see him. Being told that he never saw strangers; "let him know," replied the curious traveller, "that I wish to speak to him about some cocks." Lambert, who overheard him, immediately exclaimed, "Tell the gentleman that I am a *shy* cock."

When Mr. Lambert condescended to see company, he found many occasions for exercising his wit as well as his patience. One day he was visited by a modern beau, who, while the conversation turned on the changes of the weather, and in what manner Mr. Lambert felt himself affected by them, began to gaze at him through his spy-glass, as if Mr. Lambert's person was not sufficiently perceptible. "And pray, Sir," cried this insignificant fribble, "What is it you dislike most?" "To be bored with a quizzing glass," replied Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Lambert's readiness at repartee, his superiority in characteristic description, and the humorous sallies in which he often indulges, certainly entitle him to a place among our modern wits. Shrewd and intel-

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ligent, he has improved his natural talents by reading and observation: and the general information he possesses, together with the numerous anecdotes treasured up in his memory, render his society both agreeable and instructive.

During his residence in London, Mr. Lambert found himself in no degree affected by the change of air. The only kind of indisposition he ever remembers to have experienced, are a few inflammatory attacks, and some trifling depression of spirits in a morning. This extraordinary share of health, has not been acquired by any unusual precaution or particular care of himself; on the contrary, when he has returned from the sports of the field at night, he has never changed his wet clothes, and though they have been thoroughly soaked with rain, he has put them on the next morning without ever having them dried—This, and many other indiscretions, Mr. Lambert has been guilty of, without experiencing any ill effects, and which would doubtless have proved fatal to many of well-proportioned figures.

Mr. Lambert's partiality for hunting, coursing, racing, fishing, and cocking, we have already noticed. He was likewise well known in his neighborhood as a great otter-hunter. Till within these five years he was extremely active in all the sports of the field, and though he was prevented by his corpulence from partaking in them, he still breeds cocks, setters, and pointers, which he has brought to as great, or perhaps greater perfection than any other sporting character of the present day. At the time when terriers were the vogue, he possessed no less than thirty of them at once. The high estimation in which the animals of his breeding are held by sporting amateurs, was fully evinced

in the sale of his dogs, which he brought with him to London, and which were disposed of at Tattersal's at the following prices:——Peg, a black setter bitch, forty-one guineas: Punch, a setter dog, twenty-six guineas; Brush, ditto, seventeen guineas; Bob, ditto, twenty guineas: Bounce, ditto, twenty-two guineas; Sam, ditto, twenty-six guineas; Bell, ditto, thirty-two guineas:——Charlotte, a pointer bitch, twenty-two guineas; Lucy, ditto, twelve guineas.——Total 218 guineas. Mr. Mellish was the purchaser of the seven setters, and Lord Kinnaird of the pointers. If Mr. Lambert had a greater attachment to one kind of sport than another, it was to racing, for which he always manifested a peculiar preference. He was fond of riding himself, before his weight prevented him from enjoying that exercise; and it is his opinion, founded on experience, that the more blood and the better a horse was bred, the better he carried him.

After residing in London about five months, Mr. Lambert returned to Leicester. As his success must have been fully adequate to his most sanguine wishes, we make little doubt but what he will soon visit the metropolis again.

We shall now take our leave of this "goodly, portly man, i'faith and corpulent," who, if not the most consequential, is, undoubtedly, the *greatest* man in his Majesty's dominions.

CHARLES LORD VISC. HOWICK.

THAT statesman, who, for nearly half a century, had made a distinguished figure in the world of politics, has breathed his last. Charles Fox, the *man of the people*, is no more! Alas, how futile are all our hopes and expectations! For how short a period has this luminary survived the setting of his rival star! Those forms of clay, which, for many a year, had been animated by a spirit of hostility towards each other, will now repose in amity together. The voice of contention between them will be heard no more for ever! Those time-honoured walls, which enclose the ashes of monarchs, of statesmen, of warriors, and of poets, receive also the silent remains of the two great leaders of the whig and tory parties.

These reflections, we trust, are not improperly called forth at the present period by the death of Mr. Fox. The high church-and-state party, which had been holden compactly together for so many years, by the mighty influence of Mr. Pitt's stupendous talents, seems, by his death, to have crumbled into nothing. Like the "dew-drop on the lion's mane," it has been "shook to air." It remains to be seen, whether the party, at the head of which Mr. Fox had so long been, will be able to survive the shock of his departure.

Charles, Lord Viscount Howick, as the successor of Mr. Fox, in the Foreign Department, demands an immediate attention.

The death of the late secretary was necessarily productive of much agitation, both in and out of the cabinet. Amongst the various personages who were spoken of, and looked up to, as likely to succeed him, were the Marquis Wellesley, the Hon. Mr. Thomas Grenville, Lord Holland, and Lord Howick. His Majesty's choice at length rested upon——or, to speak more correctly, was at length directed to——the latter. Had the Marquis Wellesley, who, by those who are best acquainted with him, is regarded as a nobleman of first-rate talents, been fixed upon, a restoration of the Pitt system must, in a great measure, have ensued. But this, it was the interest of the Fox party to prevent. Mr. Grenville's appointment to the office would have been almost equally objectionable to them, as it would have tended to give that preponderance to the Grenville interest, in the cabinet, which it has not yet possessed. The investiture of Lord Holland with the seals, which, there is reason to believe, was at first intended, in all probability, was as strenuously opposed by the Grenville side of administration. Had Lord Holland succeeded his uncle, the change would have been trivial; but, by the removal of Lord Howick, from the naval to the foreign department, and by the appointment of Mr. T. Grenville as that nobleman's successor, the difficulties, on both sides, seem, at least for the present, to be obviated. The change, we are convinced, will be highly acceptable at the Admiralty; and, if we mistake not, in despite of Foxite intrigue, will ultimately turn the scale in favour of the Grenvilles.

It is time to state, that the family, from which Lord Howick is descended, is that of Grey (supposed to be a corruption of De Croy) which has been long settled

in the North of England; manors having appertained to it, in the county of Northumberland, from the period of the conquest to the present day. It originally came, as the name imports, from the continent; and, like other Norman scions, following the fortunes of William the Conqueror, became engrafted on an English stock. It is believed, that the Greys took part with William the III. at the revolution; and it is clear that they were whigs in the late reign, as one of them served the office of high sheriff in 1736; and, on the 11th of January, 1746, he received a patent of baronetage from his Majesty, George II. The younger branch, in the father of Viscount Howick, has been ennobled during the present reign.——The head of the family was created Baron Grey, of Warke, by James II; and by a marriage with a daughter of this family, the ancestor of Lord Tankerville obtained an earldom.——Lord Grey de Howick, K. B. the younger son of the late Sir Henry Grey, Bart. was born in the year 1729; and as the estates were entailed on his elder brother Sir Henry, he entered into the army, at the early age of nineteen. In 1755 he obtained permission to raise an independent company, and in January, 1761, he was promoted to the rank of field officer. It is not our intention to enter into the details of this gentleman's military career. Suffice it therefore to mention, that Lieutenant-Colonel Grey, as he was then called, accompanied General Hodson in one of those expeditions which were planned during the administration of the late Lord Chatham; that he commanded the 98th regiment of foot at the capture of the important fortress of Belleisle; that, on the return of peace he retired on half-pay; that he afterwards obtained the rank of colonel, and was appointed

aid-du-camp

aid-du-camp to the king; that he repaired to America, about the period of the evacuation of Boston, where he was distinguished by General Howe, appointed to a separate command, and invested with the local rank of major-general; that, during the whole of the American war, he took a very conspicuous part on the trans-atlantic continent; that, in the year 1782, he attained the rank of lieutenant-general, after which he received a regiment of dragoons, together with the Order of the Bath—the latter in 1783; that, in 1793, he accompanied Sir John Jervis, now Earl St. Vincent, as commander-in-chief of an expedition against the French West Indies, having, previously to this, led a small body of forces into maritime Flanders, by means of which he secured the possession of Nieuport; that, soon after his return from the West Indies, he received the government of the Island of Guernsey; that, nearly at the same time, he was appointed to the third or king's own regiment of dragoons, on the death of General Lascelles; and that, during the latter end of the late war, the southern district was also confided to his care. In addition to the honorary badge with which he had before been invested, his Majesty was pleased, by a patent, bearing date June 21, 1801, to create him Baron Grey de Howick, in the county of Northumberland. Shortly after the formation of the present ministry, he was created Earl Grey, in favour, of his eldest son, the Honourable Charles Grey, the immediate subject of this sketch. His lordship's family being numerous, he devoted much of his leisure time to the education of his children, during the long interval of peace which succeeded the American contest. At that period he also enjoyed a seat in the House of Commons.

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His lordship's eldest son, the Honourable Charles Grey, now Lord Viscount Howick, was born in the year 1764; and, by the influence of his family, and the early promise of his own future talents, was returned a member for the county of Northumberland in 1785. He has had the honour of sitting in three successive parliaments, one with Sir Charles Middleton, now Lord Barham, and two with Colonel Beaumont as a colleague.

The father of Mr. Grey, together with Barré and Dunning, was attached to the Marquis of Lansdowne; it is not therefore very surprising, that he himself should be inclined towards the same party. Mr. Grey, indeed was one of that band, who with Mr. Fox at their head, maintained that Mr. Pitt had procured his first official appointment by singular and unconstitutional means; and, during the administrations of that gentleman, he uniformly fought under the banners of opposition.

At the period of the dispute with Spain, in 1789, the opponents of Mr. Pitt not only condemned his original precipitation, but objected that he had entered into a convention, relative to which he had omitted to lay the necessary documents before the house. At the close of the following year (1790) Mr. Grey, in particular insisted, that in the conduct of the negociation, circumstances had occurred which required to be explained, as it could never be asserted, that the executive power was exempt from such an explanation, for it would then be a power above control, and secure from inspection. On this occasion, Mr. Grey was seconded by Mr. Pelham, and supported by Mr. Windham, Mr. Jekyll, and Mr. Fox; but his concluding motion

motion for papers was lost by a majority of one hundred and twenty-four; the Ayes being one hundred and twenty-four, and the Noes two hundred and fifty-eight.

Mr. Grey made himself equally conspicuous in the spring of 1791, by bringing forward a string of resolutions, in opposition to the then meditated war against Russia. But here also he found himself in a minority of one hundred and seventy, against two hundred and fifty-three.

Shortly after this, Mr. Grey took the lead in a business which reflected high credit on his conduct as a statesman, and on his feelings as a man. We allude to the committee which, in consequence of his motion to that effect, was appointed to enquire into the state of the existing laws relating to debtor and creditor. It is indeed much to be regretted that nothing decisive has yet been done in this business; as the insolvent acts, in the spirit which they are now passed, tend rather to let loose a horde of depredators on a credulous public, than to afford any permanent relief to the honest debtor.

Notwithstanding the meditated contest with Russia had been relinquished, Mr. Grey, early in 1792, was anxious for instituting an enquiry into the affair; and accordingly moved for a variety of papers relative to the subjects. But here again, Mr. Pitt resisting the production of the documents required, the honourable mover found himself in a minority. It was then determined by the opposition, that they should proceed against the minister on such evidence as had been previously produced. In consequence of this determination, Mr. Whitbread made a motion for that purpose; and, in the debate which ensued, Mr. Grey, alluding to Mr.

Pitt,

Pitt, took the opportunity of observing, that "that right honourable gentleman had indeed been considerably affected by the extravagant praise bestowed upon him on former occasions, and as the character of the late Earl of Chatham stood high, the present minister deemed it necessary to assume a dictatorial air, that he might pass for a person who could give the law to the different powers of Europe. In consequence of the *incense* so lavishly bestowed upon him, he had been prancing through every court on the continent, and after much gasconade and bluster, met in each nothing but discomfiture and disgrace. The success of the right honourable gentleman in the affairs of Holland had elated him in such a manner, that it came into his head that he would parcel out kingdoms, and conduct negociations with the same ease that he laid on taxes, or supplied the want of arguments by the division of majorities in that house. His friends, and those who pretended to be his friends, flattered him into that belief. We heard no more of the olive-branch, the language of which is usually followed by firmness, and in the end, with substantial profits and well-earned applause. On the contrary, his partisans longed for a war in which he might distinguish his talents in conducting the vessel of the commonwealth through all the thunder of cannon, with the same ease that he conducted it in the gentle tide of peace: nay, he seemed to wish for it himself: his imagination was heated like that of Don Quixote, which kindled into all the ardour of chivalry by reading books of romance—the laurels of his father were faded in his eyes—he out-heroded Herod!"

Mr. Grey's minority on this occasion, amounted to

one hundred and sixteen, against two hundred and forty-four.

The grand object of the opposition had hitherto been, to attack Mr. Pitt on the unconstitutional manner by which, according to them, he had first crept into, and then maintained himself in power; as well as to expose what they affected to treat as his misgovernment exemplified in the waste of the public treasure, in consequence of the ruinous and useless armaments which, at different times, he had equipped. The commencement of the late war, which may not inaptly be termed the war of the revolution, opened a new field of attack, in which the opposition undertook to prove their strength. At this period, however, by the skill of the minister the hostile ranks were materially thinned. On the sudden meeting of parliament, in December 1792, a violent outcry was raised by those who had not been brought over by the side of administration. Lord Wycombe, son of the Marquis of Lansdown, and the whole of the *pacific* party most strenuously opposed the address; and Mr. Fox, treating the speech as that of the minister, declared his belief that every assertion in it was false and unfounded. He deprecated the prosecution of men for their opinions, as actions, not opinions were criminal; and remarked, that no fears were exhibited by government during the march of the Duke of Brunswick, in whose discomfiture and retreat he exulted and rejoiced, as that retreat was a triumph to every lover of liberty. Mr. Fox, on this occasion, had prepared an amendment, tending to reject the whole of the address, excepting such part as professed an attachment to his Majesty and the constitution. Mr. Grey supported the amend-

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ment, deprecating the whole conduct of the administration, but particularly in the measure of assembling the parliament, which had excited an alarm throughout the country, as he said, for some *wicked purpose of ministry.'* This was the memorable period at which the illustrious Burke eternally seceded from opposition.

It was only a few days after this, that Mr. Grey accused ministry of having abused the act of parliament and deceived the public, in making use of the word *insurrections,* for the purpose of calling out the militia, and convening the legislature; whereas, he said, the real design was to catch the impulse of national loyalty, and to draw the house into measures which, on cool reflection, they would find cause to repent of. He then adverted to a riot at Manchester, which he stated to have been occasioned by a new *Association for preserving Property, &c. against Republicans and Levellers.* In consequence of which the houses of Messrs. Cooper and Walker had been destroyed. He also mentioned a little pamphlet circulated by the association above-mentioned, entitled, *A Pennyworth of Truth, from Thomas Bull to John Bull,* and read a passage from it, which ascribed the American war, the national debt, &c. to the dissenters. Affecting to consider the passage as libellous, and calculated to inflame the minds of the people against the dissenters, he moved that the Attorney-general be ordered to prosecute the author; but this motion, like most of those which it had been the lot of Mr. Grey to make, experienced a decided negative.

In 1794, Mr. Grey and his friends very strenuously opposed a number of subsidiary treaties, which were brought down, particularly the one entered into with

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Sardinia, by which the sum of two hundred thousand pounds had been granted to that monarch for the defence of his own territory.

Mr. Grey, about the same time, moved, "that it is the opinion of this house, that the employing of foreigners in any place of trust, or foreign troops within the kingdom, without the consent of parliament first had and obtained, is unconstitutional, and contrary to law. In respect to the policy or expediency of employing foreign troops within the realm, under given circumstances, he declined to express any opinion, but whether the measure were right or wrong, he contended that it was highly unconstitutional to adopt it without the previous consent of parliament. Instead of passing a direct negative upon this motion, it was got rid of by moving the previous question, when the minority appeared to be reduced to the insignificant number of thirty-five. Our limits will by no means admit us to enter into an examination of the whole of Mr. Grey's parliamentary conduct; but it would be injustice not to mention that, from the commencement of his senatorial duties to the present period, scarcely any great debate has taken place in which he has not borne a distinguished part.

As he had uniformly acted in opposition to Mr. Pitt; as he had as uniformly taken part with the friends and adherents of Mr. Fox; and as his family connections afforded him considerable weight in the country, he was with much propriety selected in the formation of the present ministry, to participate in the honours and emoluments of office. He was accordingly appointed first lord of the Admiralty; and, as it has not been customary for that post to be occupied but by men

men of title, his father, as already stated, was raised to the dignity of an earl; when he, consequently, assumed the title of viscount. His proceedings at the Admiralty Board—or rather in the House of Commons, by virtue of his office—has been such as to acquire considerable popularity. We allude to certain promotions that have taken place, to the increase of pay which has been made throughout the navy, and to some regulations which have been made relative to the funds of Greenwich Hospital. His naval administration, in other respects, has not, we believe, been equally satisfactory, as it has been considered that the St. Vincent influence has had too much weight behind the curtain. Lord Howick is a man of inflexible honour and integrity, but his temper is known to be extremely irritable. To lead him is an easy task; but to drive him, an impossible one. Lord Howick is known to entertain a very strong friendship for Earl St. Vincent, and to place great confidence in his opinions on nautical affairs. In consequence of this, it has been asserted by some, that, during the naval administration of Lord Howick, Earl St. Vincent has been virtually first lord of the Admiralty. Indeed, the extraordinary and unprecedented powers with which the noble lord has been invested, favours the opinion of an uncommon partiality towards him. It is an exceedingly remarkable circumstance, and highly discreditable to the parliament and government of the country, that no public thanks were awarded to those able and gallant officers, Sir Home Popham and Sir David Baird, for their capture of the Cape of Good Hope, one of the most important settlements in the world. Whether Lord Howick were at all concerned

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in the refusal, we cannot pretend to say; but in the opinion of most people, there was something exceedingly impolitic, ungenerous, and narrow-minded, in withholding so cheap a remuneration. It was recollected by many, that Earl St. Vincent and Sir Home Popham were not on the best possible terms. Every one was aware also, that the expedition against the Cape had been planned and dispatched during Mr. Pitt's administration; the refusal of thanks to the officers who had been appointed by their predecessors in power, had therefore the appearance of that pitiful jealousy which can never exist in noble minds. It remains to be seen, whether the fortunate captors of Buenos Ayres will be equally *rewarded* by government for their pains!

We have yet to remark, that, by referring to dates, it will be seen that the nation is indebted for all the grand naval exploits which have been achieved during the existence of the present administration to the well-concerted plans of that party which was unfortunately dissolved by the death of Mr. Pitt.

An advance of salary has been long wished for in the Admiralty departments. Just before Lord Melville's resignation at that Board, every think was ready for such an advance to be carried into effect; but by the change which then took place, it was delayed. An arrangement of this nature was in a similar state of forwardness when Lord Barham retired; and, what is remarkable, the long-expected advance was on the eve of being made, when Lord Howick was nominated as the successor of Mr. Fox.

Mr. Grey, it should have been observed, was one of the managers of the impeachment against Mr. Hastings,

tings, in the course of which he delivered himself with great force and elegance. He also added materially to his former reputation, when, with a filial piety truly commendable, he defended his father against certain accusations which were brought against him relative to his conduct in the West Indies.

Mr. Grey, while in opposition, was always a strenuous advocate for a reform in parliament; and, like the rest of his liberty-loving brethren was a violent stickler for the freedom of the press. His anxiety for that freedom was very *strikingly* manifested, when, in the last year, an unfortunate, and perhaps an impertinent printer of a newspaper having made somewhat too free with certain observations which had fallen in the House of Commons, relative to the conduct of Lord Melville, was, on the motion of Mr. Grey, brought up to the bar of the House. Mr. Grey's irritability, on this occasion, far outshot his prudence; and, as his friends were heartily ashamed of the circumstance, the printer, after having been for some days in the custody of the sergeant at arms, was again called up to the bar of the House, reprimanded, and discharged.

The prosecution of Lord Melville was another of those party proceedings which reflect any thing but credit upon their authors; and in which we regret to state, Mr. Grey was very actively concerned. The acquittal of that persecuted nobleman is the best proof that can be given of his innocence; and, judging from different events which have since occurred, there is strong reason for believing that, had Mr. Pitt lived, and his administration been in power, Lord Melville would, ere this, have resumed his station as first lord of the Admiralty.

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We have now only to observe, that Lord Howick has for some time been matrimonially connected with a respectable whig family of Ireland; having married the daughter of the Right Honourable Brabazon Ponsonby, by whom he has a son and several daughters.

His lordship's next brother, Henry George, is an officer in the army, being lieutenant-colonel of the 17th regiment of dragoons. George, the third son of Lord Grey, is a post captain in the navy: and William, the fourth, is in the army. There are two other sons, and several daughters, one of whom (Lady Elizabeth) is married to Samuel Whitbread, Esq, M. P. for Bedford.

END OF VOL. II.

*** *In order that* THE MODERN PLUTARCH *might enjoy the advantage of seizing upon characters more immediately interesting: it has been deemed expedient to postpone some of the lives, which are intended to correspond with the earlier Portraits. In consequence of this arrangement, that, which may be considered as the* first *part of the work, will not be completed until the conclusion of the* fourth *volume. A greater latitude will thereby be obtained, for inserting the memoirs of such new characters as are almost daily rising into notice.*

At the close therefore of the fourth *volume, instead of the* second, *as was formerly intended, a general index, and table of contents, will be given.*

To render THE MODERN PLUTARCH *a more finished and compact performance, it is also the design of the Proprietors, at that period of the work, to present an appendix, of some length, tending to the farther illustration of certain characters, whose subsequent actions may demand attention, or whom death may have removed from the scene of mortal existence.*

Directions to the Binder for placing the Plates.

PLATE I. Containing the Portraits of Mr. Addington, Dr. Arnold, Bartolozzi, Buonaparte, and Sir Francis Burdett, to face pape 91.

PLATE II. Containing the Portraits of Mr. Cooke, Alderman Coombe, Lord Duncan, Dr. Darwin, and Mr. Dibdin. to face page 47.

PLATE III. Containing the Portraits of Lord Melville, and Mr. Whitbread, to face the title page.

PLATE IV. Containing the Portraits of Colonel Thornton, and Mrs. Fitzherbert, to face page 285.

PLATE V. Containing the Portraits of Mrs. Opie, and Lord Henry Petty, to face page 148.

PLATE VI. Containing the Portraits of Lords Thurlow and Collingwood, in our next.